

"PWI 500" 8th ANNUAL SPECIAL!

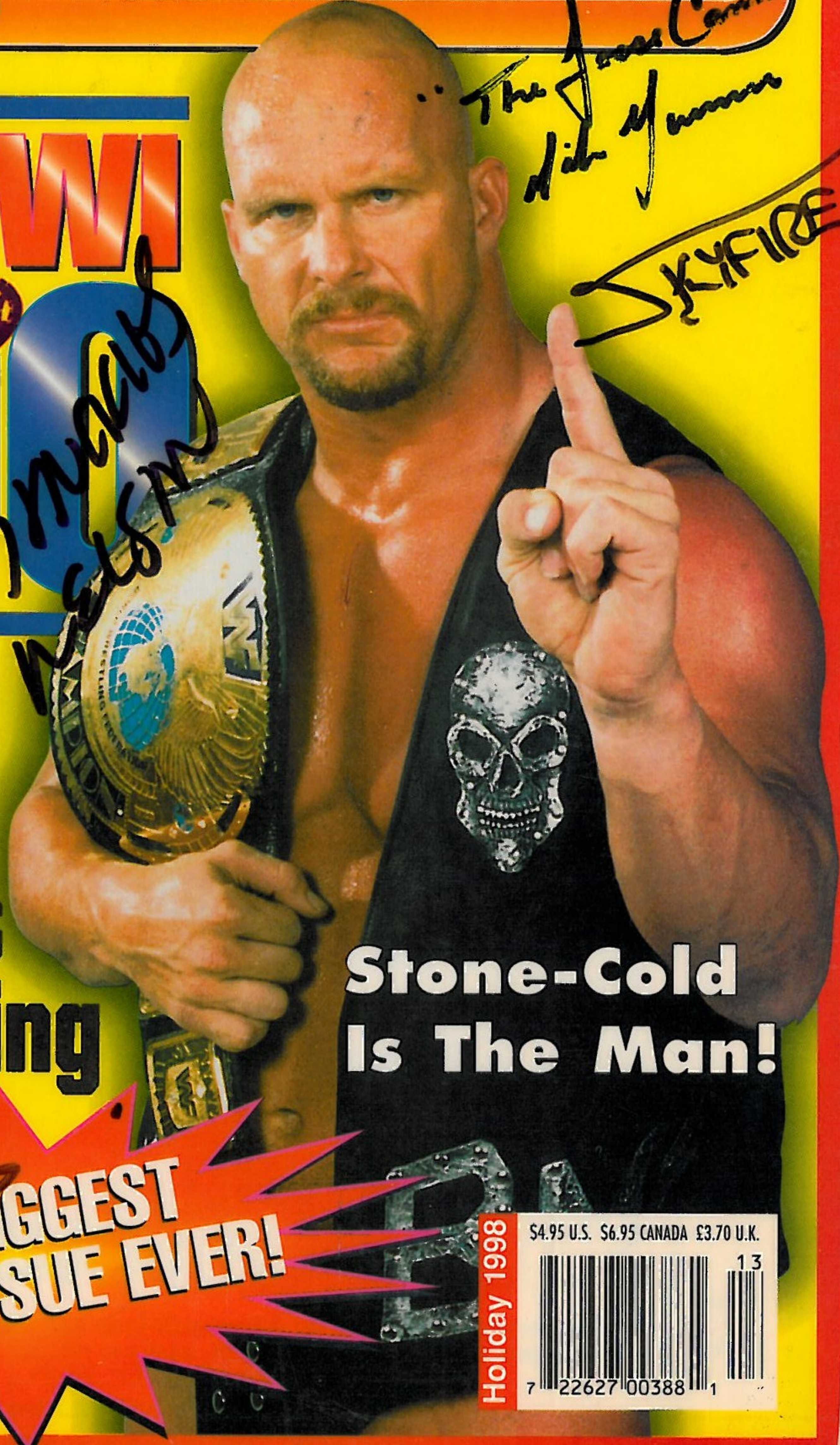
PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED

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THE PWI 500

**Ranking
The Top
500 Stars
In Wrestling**



**Stone-Cold
Is The Man!**

**OUR BIGGEST
"500" ISSUE EVER!**

Holiday 1998

\$4.95 U.S. \$6.95 CANADA £3.70 U.K.



13

The year Dan-O turned 30!

→ DRAKE
→ DAWSON

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IRON
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MIKE
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SKYFIRE

The Stone Cold
Mike Gunner

SKYFIRE

ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE 1998 "PW 500"

94 2 Cold Scorpio	411 Don Carson	122 Flash Flanagan	408 Jihad Hussein	278 Lizmark Jr.	81 Octagon	421 Joe Rules	157 Super Crazy
418 911	424 Cham-Pain	433 Doug Flex	117 Prince Iaukea	489 Paul Lloyd	296 Ray Odyssey	334 Tony Rumble	68 Super Delphin
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498 ACCW Viper	280 Chris Chavis	419 Frankie the Mobster	332 Iceman	456 Jeff Lovin	497 Mad Dog O'Malley	392 J.R. Ryder	338 Johnny Swinger
106 Johnny Ace	175 Chris Chetti	13 Tatsumi Fujinami	225 Takashi Iizuka	29 Lex Luger	128 Glen Osbourne	33 Sabu	378 Syl the Sadist
228 Brian Adams	46 Masahiro Chono	172 Shoichi Funaki	460 Indiana Kidd Jr.	241 Luxdor	76 Shinjiro Otani	311 Mustafa Saed	155 Yoshihiro Tajiri
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287 Perro Aguayo Sr.	194 Jimmy Cicero	169 Doug Furnas	313 Invader III	336 Mabel	224 Pantera	147 Julio Sanchez	95 Masato Tanaka
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341 Scoot Andrews	470 Crazy Joe	279 Eddie Golden	43 Jeff Jarrett	193 Rick Martel	148 Miguel Perez Jr.	263 Erich Sbraccia	362 Robert Thompson
82 Animal	85 Justin Credible	303 Terry Golden	10 Chris Jericho	420 Vinny Massaro	142 Roddy Piper	293 Dino Scarlo	305 Thrillbilly
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1 Steve Austin	156 Ace Darling	69 The Great Sasuke	281 Rick Justice	227 Meng	211 Jim Powers	104 Kendo Ka Shin	474 Tombstone
269 Giant Baba	223 Barry Darsow	306 Vic Grimes	209 Kama	159 Men's Teoh	480 Prince of Africa	146 Jinsei Shinzaki	364 Tornado
174 Buff Bagwell	291 Major DeBeers	221 Johnny Grunge	413 Kuame Kamoze	54 Marc Mero	41 Psicosis	268 Shocker	298 T. Rantula
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372 Bruiser Bennett	350 Tony DeVito	62 Billy Gunn	108 Kanyon	3 Mitsuharu Misawa	475 Raiden	141 Davey Boy Smith	65 Vader
19 Chris Benoit	491 John Diamond	57 Scott Hall	195 Kaos	107 Rey Misterio Jr.	370 John Rambo	205 Johnny Smith	270 Greg Valentine
468 Big Slam	118 Lance Diamond	173 Van Hammer	17 Toshiaki Kawada	329 Michael Modest	292 Twiggy Ramirez	377 Jay Smooth	199 Vampiro Canadiense
137 Big Titan	87 Disco Inferno	376 Johnny Handsome	490 Bob Keller	259 Don Montoya	455 Ratboy	134 Tracey Smothers	14 Rob Van Dam
48 Bam Bam Bigelow	265 Discovery	89 Stan Hansen	320 Tiger Khan	436 Donovan Morgan	61 Raven	70 Al Snow	110 Savio Vega
374 Black Boy	30 Shane Douglas	208 Matt Hardy	391 Kid Hollywood	304 Pirata Morgan	203 Stevie Ray	297 Jimmy Snuka	379 Ronnie Vegas
445 Black Eagle	314 Boris Dragoff	40 Bret Hart	484 Kid U.S.A.	472 Morgus the Maniac	354 Johnny Raynor	318 Venom	105 Val Venis
256 Black Warrior	359 Dr. Dan	15 Owen Hart	132 Billy Kidman	163 Hugh Morris	50 Reckless Youth	251 George South	318 Venom
109 Steve Blackman	100 Tommy Dreamer	153 Hiroshi Hase	422 Rex King	196 Rick Morton	219 Reese	127 Venum Black	230 Sid Vicious
316 Tully Blanchard	179 Darren Drosdov	52 Shinya Hashimoto	440 Kevin Kirby	499 Ralph Mosca	188 Steven Regal	390 Steve Southern	112 Villano IV
478 Romeo Bliss	74 Buh Buh Ray Dudley	407 Major Havoc	356 Crusher Kline	238 Mosco de la Merced	347 Renegade	236 Frank Stalletto	261 Villano V
206 Blue Demon Jr.	200 Dick Dudley	91 Hawk	220 Dennis Knight	115 Maunukea Mossman	444 Dave Renegade	454 Bob Starr	240 Vincent
216 Blue Meanie	111 D-Von Dudley	38 Hayabusa	483 Kevin Knight	441 Mr. Excellent	333 Tommy Rich	245 Chicky Starr	375 Danie Vogues
56 Blue Panther	121 Spike Dudley	160 Kaz Hayashi	274 Brian Knobs	349 Mr. Ooh La La	309 Justin Richards	493 Ron Starr	47 Dr. Wagner Jr.
7 Booker T	351 Hacksaw Duggan	126 Headbanger Mosh	6 Kenta Kobashi	58 Keiji Muto	344 Stevie Richards	202 Shawn Stasiak	437 Byron Walker
366 Andres Borges	260 Bobby Duncum	144 Headbanger Thrasher	130 Satoshi Kojima	83 Yuji Nagata	189 Reno Riggins	342 Vic Steamboat	124 Michael Wall Street
102 Bradshaw	271 Bill Dundee	315 Headhunter I	99 Konnan	125 Manabu Nakanishi	50 Reckless Youth	365 Bob Steele	242 Mikey Whipwreck
182 Tom Brandi	254 Steven Dunn	322 Headhunter II	167 John Kronus	39 Kevin Nash	219 Reese	294 Gary Steele	473 Wild Child
442 Brick Bronsky	272 Bobby Eaton	135 Heavy Metal	439 Chris Krueger	204 Abismo Negro	188 Steven Regal	301 George Steele	180 Doug Williams
380 Brickhouse Brown	401 Prof. Egon Ecton	24 Hunter Hearst Helmsley	192 Kurrigan	34 Casas Negro	347 Renegade	373 Chris Steelheart	116 Steve Williams
120 D-Lo Brown	464 ECWA Viper	97 Curt Hennig	262 Buddy Landell	165 Jim Neidhart	444 Dave Renegade	66 Rick Steiner	239 Will o' the Wisp
234 King Kong Bundy	67 Edge	191 Mark Henry	168 Latin Lover	435 Rikki Nelson	333 Tommy Rich	92 Scott Steiner	150 Barry Windham
381 Bushwhacker Butch	129 Eight-Ball	18 El Hijo Del Santo	136 Jerry Lawler	154 New Jack	309 Justin Richards	486 Scott Sterling	149 Wolfie D
399 Bushwhacker Luke	264 Mike Enos	185 Junji Hirata	119 Brian Lee	161 Mr. Niebla	344 Stevie Richards	331 Chris Stevenson	400 Wolverine
80 Christian Cage	75 Jerry Estrada	53 Hollywood Hogan	328 Stan Lee	453 Nightbreed	189 Reno Riggins	12 Sting	363 Woody Woodchuck
45 Chris Candido	77 Faarooq	415 J.P. Hogg	416 Boyce LeGrande	88 Osamu Nishimura	233 Scotty Riggs	98 Devon Storm	247 Mr. Wrestling III
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177 Mark Canterbury	71 El Felino	345 Honky Tonk Man	405 Johnny Lightning	103 Scott Norton	321 Frenchy Riviera	78 Lance Storm	133 X-Pac
357 Cueball Carmichael	42 Dave Finlay	212 Naohiro Hoshikawa	412 J.T. Lightning	471 Rob Noxious	330 Jake Roberts	237 Streak	246 Masato Yakushiji
395 Primo Camera III	55 Ric Flair	393 Humongous	215 Little Guido	151 NWO Sting	409 John Rock	450 Jack Stud	201 Yuji Yasuraoka
					197 Rocco Rock	275 Super Boy	352 Christian York
					495 Rockin' Randy	90 Super Calo	266 Lord Zoltan

PWI 500

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ID WE CONFUSE you enough last year?

Remember, we had no clear-cut choice for the number-one spot in the "PWI 500," so we gave it to the man we determined to be the best pure *wrestler* in the game. That man was Dean Malenko, and we probably would have gotten away with our reasoning had Malenko not gone into a slump shortly after last year's issue was finalized.

This year, thank goodness, there was a man very deserving of the number-one position. Steve Austin was such an obvious choice that we felt comfortable abandoning our normal practice of not revealing the winner on the cover and instead printed a shot of him with his (index) finger raised right there for all to see.

Now, should Austin go into a slump, please bear in mind that these rankings cover the period from August 1997 through August 1998. Please also consider:

- By ranking a wrestler in a position above another wrestler, we are not saying that the higher-ranked wrestler is necessarily better or that he would beat the lower-ranked wrestler. Among the points taken into account are the wrestler's pound-for-pound abilities and how active he was for the year.
- Wrestlers are not ranked on their pure wrestling ability, though it is taken into consideration. Success in wrestling is measured by wins and losses, and if a wrestler can brawl his way to victory, that's fully acceptable. Winning with the aid of outside interference is not looked upon favorably.
- Injuries do not necessarily disqualify a wrestler from the list. If a wrestler spent much of the year injured, however, his ranking might not reflect where he would have fallen in the ratings had he not missed time. (Shawn Michaels and Rey Misterio Jr. are good examples.)

As always, we welcome your feedback on the "500." You can write to us at "PWI 500," P.O. Box 1148, Ft. Washington, PA 19034. Or you can e-mail us at londonpub@aol.com

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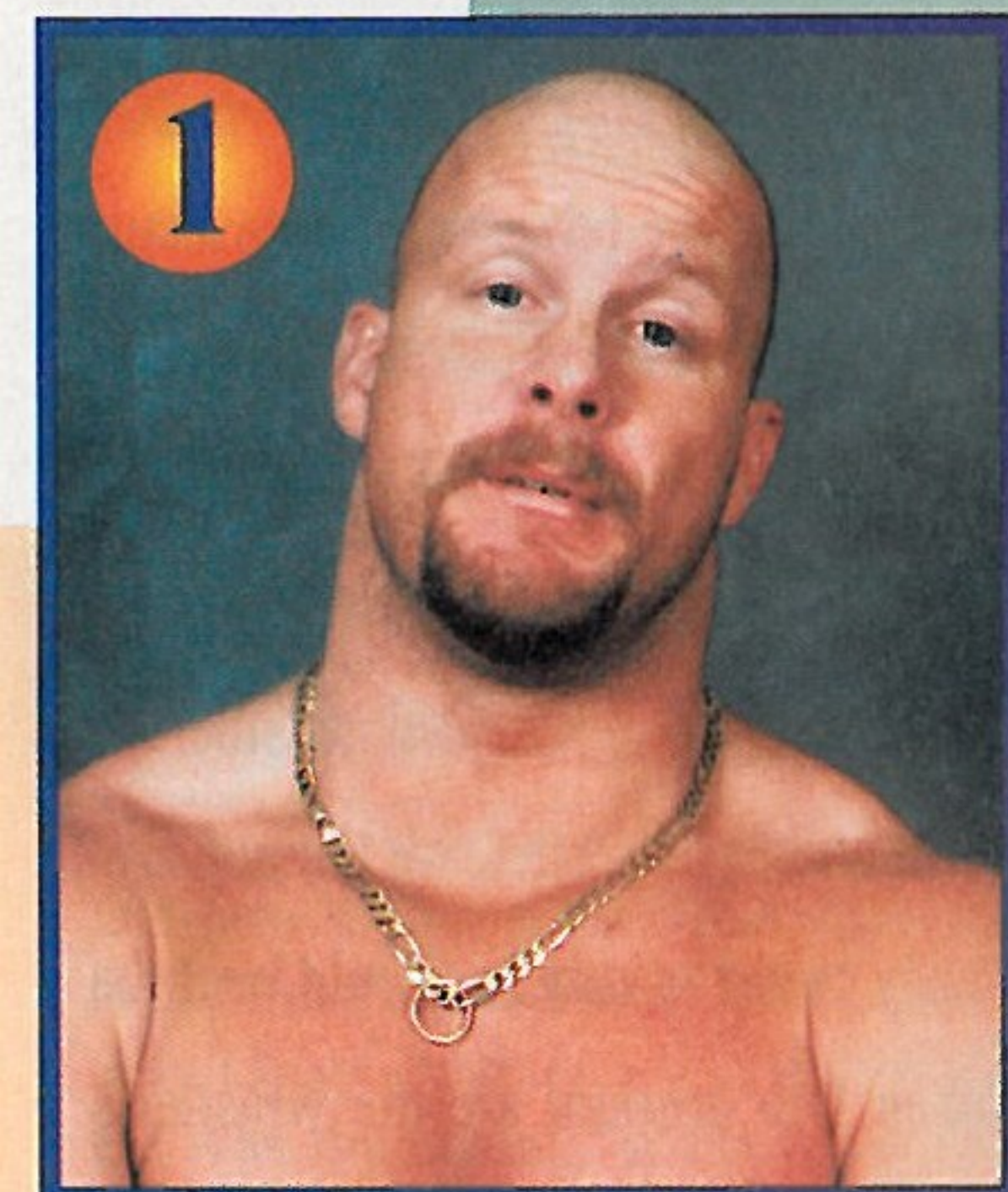
[Editor's note: The numbers in parentheses following each name represent the wrestler's height, weight, years of pro experience, and rating in the 1997 "PWI 500." An "NL" means the wrestler was not listed a year ago. A complete list of wrestlers ranked in 1997 but not 1998, as well as an alphabetical cross-reference to the "PWI 500," follow this listing.]

STEVE AUSTIN

(6'2", 252, 9, 3)

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Won the WWF World title from Shawn Michaels at WrestleMania XIV. 2. Pinned Kane to win his second WWF World title 24 hours after losing to him at King of the Ring. 3. With The Undertaker, defeated Kane and Mankind for



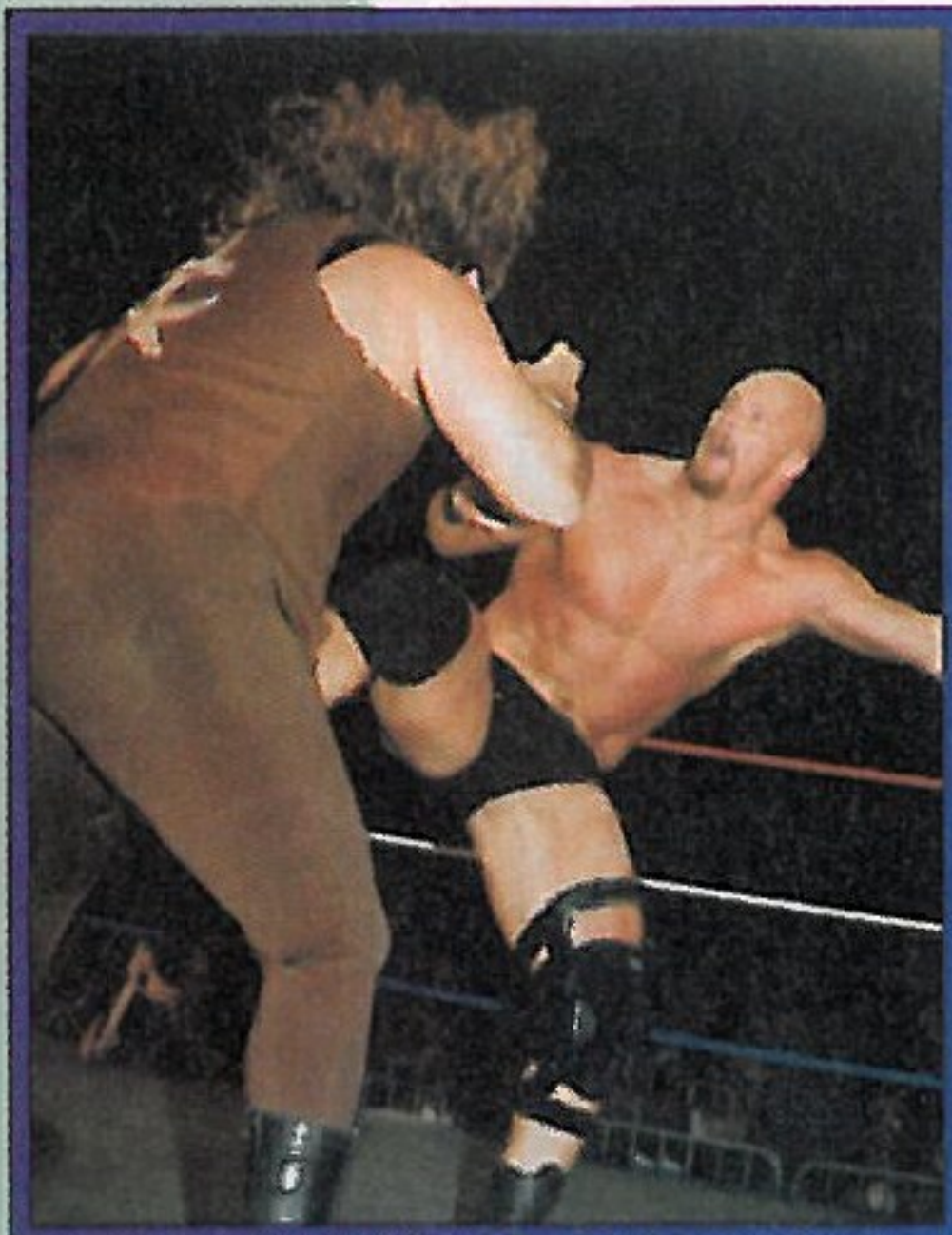
the WWF World tag team title at Fully Loaded. 4. Won the 1998 Royal Rumble. 5. Defeated Owen Hart for his second Intercontinental title at Survivor Series.

HE SAID IT: "The bottom line is that 'Stone-Cold' Steve Austin is and always will be the best damn wrestler in the WWF, whether Vince McMahon likes it or not. He can cry

like a damn baby, but it ain't gonna do any good. He can use all his cronies and his corporate suits to try to knock me down, but it won't work. Now this magazine has finally given me the recognition that I deserve after nine long years. Well, now that I'm here, it don't matter what I have to do to stay here. I'm gonna do what I've always done. I'm going to stomp a mudhole in anyone who gets in my way and then enjoy a nice cold beer. Ain't no one gonna stop me, and that's the bottom line, 'cause 'Stone-Cold' said so."

Austin doesn't show any kindness

regained the belt a night later from the evil spawn of Paul Bearer. Austin's popularity is simply amazing. He ushered in a new era in the WWF with his colorful prose and violent ring style. No matter where you go, you're bound to see a "Stone-Cold" T-shirt or two. Could he possibly get any hotter in 1999? If he remains healthy, Austin has an excellent chance of remaining in this spot next year and perhaps even beyond. His only weakness is his penchant for making allies into enemies. A champion is enough of a target as is.



PATH TO THE TOP
10: 31st in 1991; 10th in 1992; 23rd in 1993; 6th in 1994; 43rd in 1995; 22nd in 1996; 3rd in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEAD-

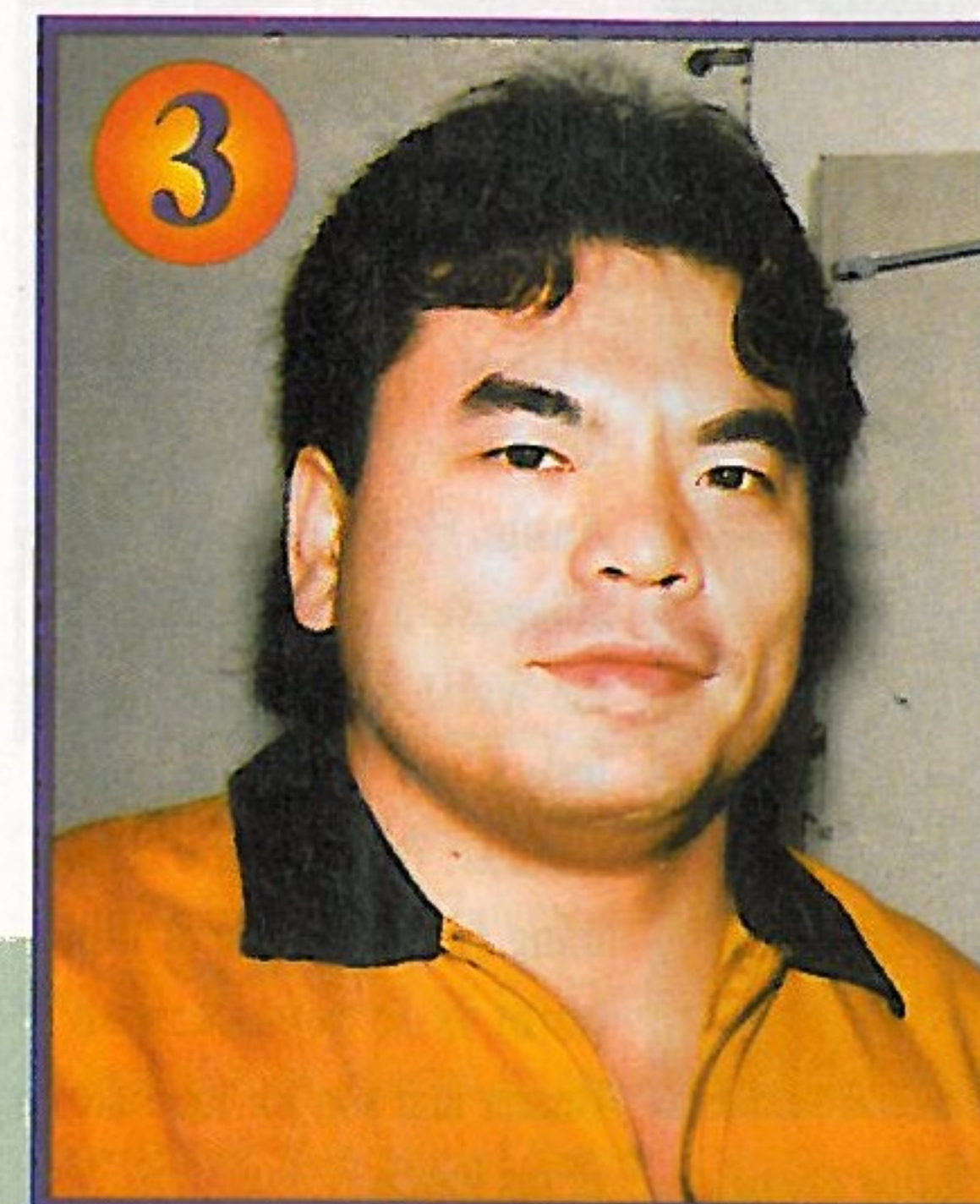
ED: Many experts said that when Austin reached the top of the WWF mountain, he'd have a real hard time staying there. He proved them wrong. When Kane knocked him off his perch at King of the Ring, he came back and

MITSU HARU MISAWA

(6'1", 242, 18, 2)

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Pinned Jun Akiyama to win the 1998 Champion's Carnival Tournament on April 18. 2. Broke the record for most consecutive title defenses

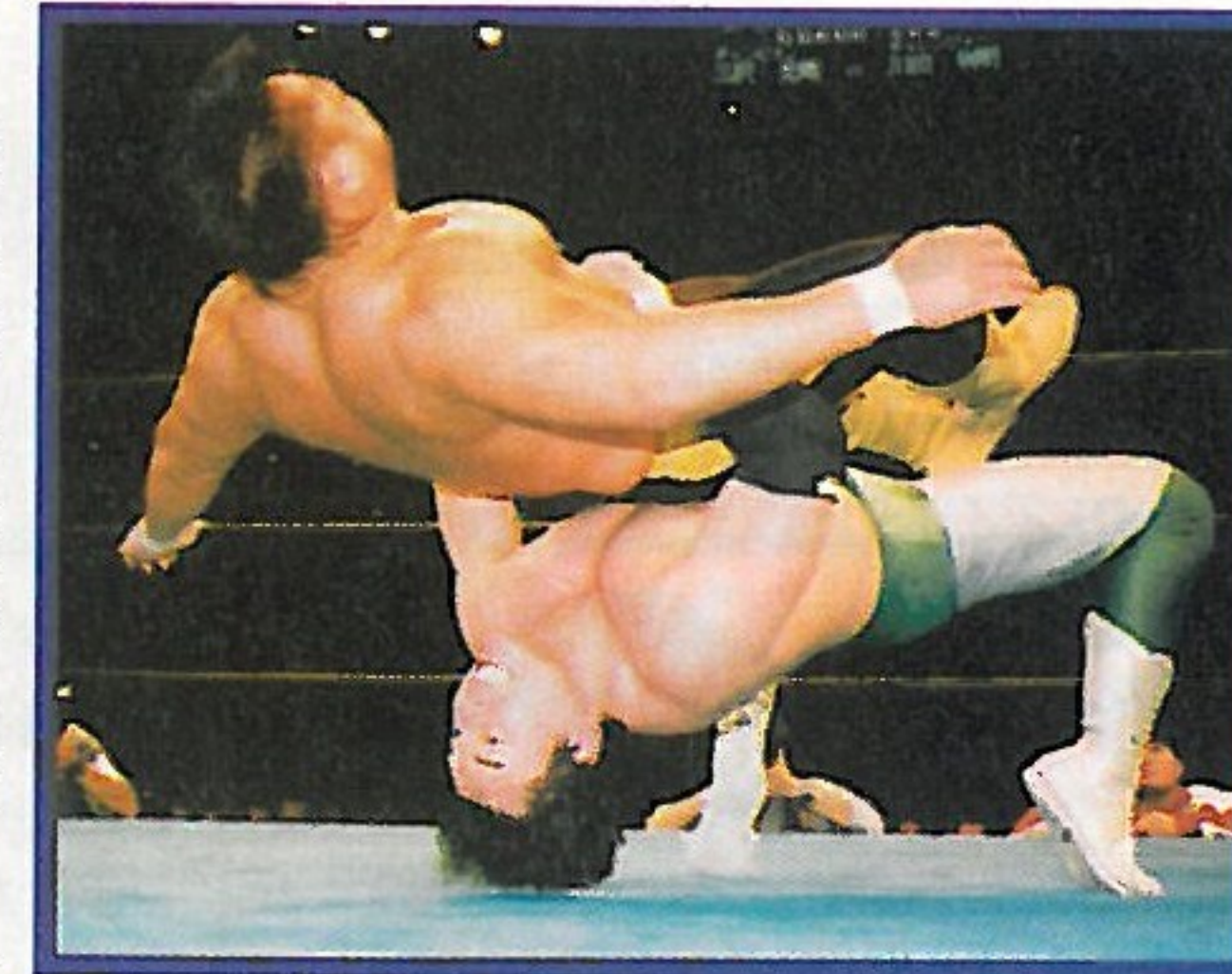


of the All-Japan Triple Crown by pinning Johnny Ace in his ninth defense. 3. Successfully defended the Triple Crown against Jun Akiyama on January 26. 4. Accepted the challenge of rival Toshiaki Kawada despite a number of injuries and fought valiantly in his May 1 title loss. 5. Battled Kawada to a 30-minute draw in one of his toughest matches of the year on March 29.

HE SAID IT: "I have never given anything less than my all in the ring, and I am honored to know that PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED continues to recognize my desire to be the best and my fighting spirit. I commit myself to improve upon my current accomplishments so that I may one day show all fans of wrestling, not only Japanese fans, that I can compete against any athlete. My belief in myself will help me to realize my aspirations so I may continue to reach for the top position in this ranking."

PATH TO THE TOP 10: 187th in 1991; 205th in 1992; 92nd in 1993; 29th in 1994; 10th in 1995; 28th in 1996; 2nd in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEADED: Misawa has accomplished just about everything there is to accomplish in All-Japan. In order for Misawa to



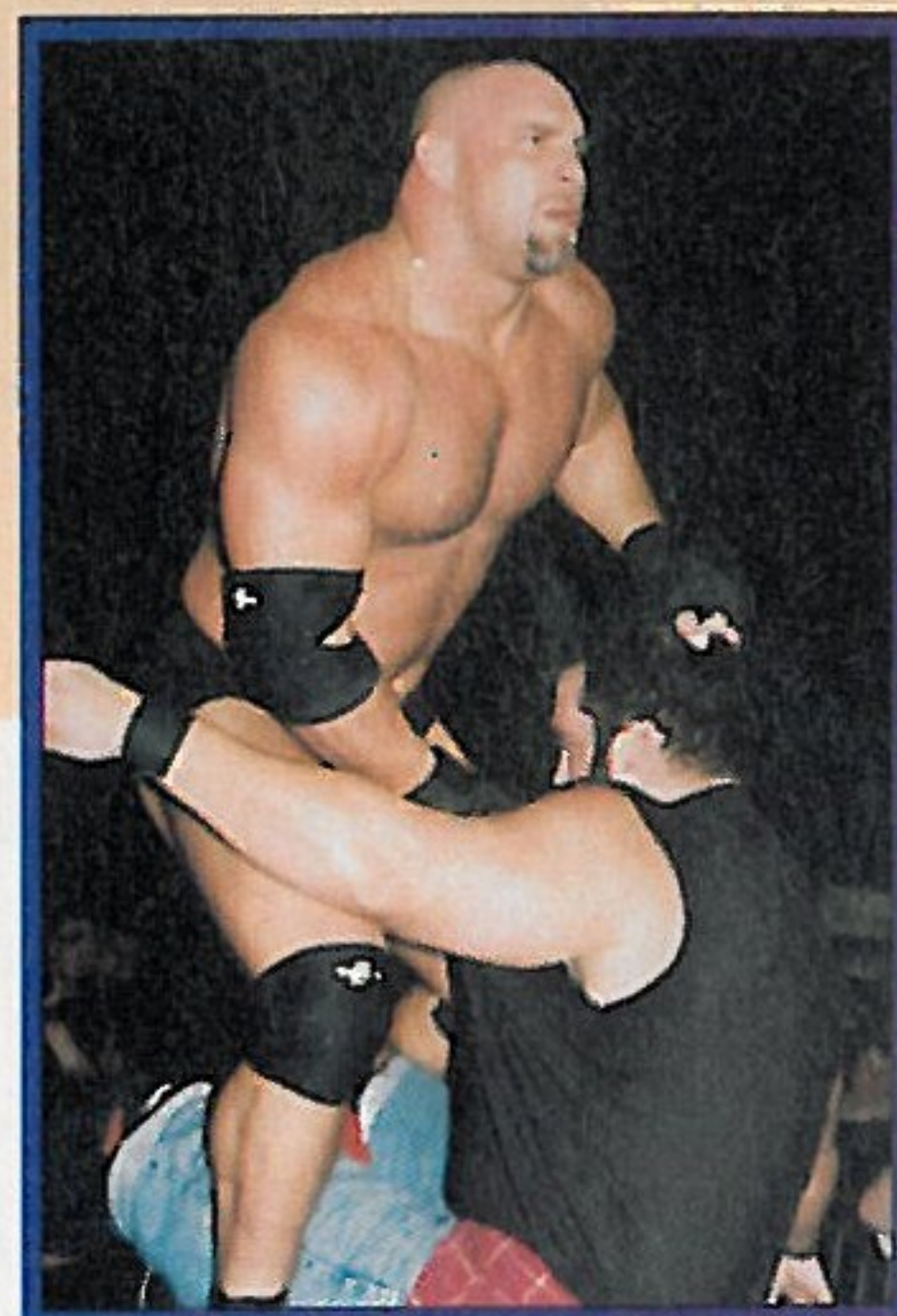
Misawa goes for the pin against Toshiaki Kawada

graduate to the top spot in the "PWI 500," he will probably have to leave his native Japan and try his luck in the U.S. A multiple-time winner of the Champion's Carnival and prestigious Triple Crown, Misawa has proven himself not only as All-Japan's dominant heavyweight, but quite simply as Japan's quintessential heavyweight of the '90s. New Japan promoters will not sign its wrestlers to matches against Misawa for political reasons, which points him basically toward the United States for new challenges. One only needs to examine a single Misawa match to realize how easily he could become a major player on the American wrestling scene.

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Pinned Hollywood Hogan for the WCW World title on July 6. 2. Defeated Raven for his first WCW belt, the U.S. championship, on April 20. 3. "Jackhammered" and pinned Scott Hall on July 6 to earn his World title shot. 4. Defeated Curt Hennig in his first pay-per-view World title defense at Bash at the Beach. 5. Pinned Sting in an impromptu challenge match in June.

HE SAID IT: "I guess it has been a dream year for me. I've always had a lot of confidence in my abilities, but I never thought I'd win the WCW World title at this point in my career. This is just the start for me, though, and I have no intention of resting on my laurels. There are many more mountains to climb and even more hurdles to overcome. I was proud to bring the title back home to WCW."



Goldberg had an unparalleled rookie year

BILL GOLDBERG

(6'3", 270, 1, NL)

You can rest assured that anyone who gets in my way will bounce off me like the fireworks that ignite during my ring entrance. My opponents need not worry. I have plenty of 'jackhammers' to go around. All I need to know is

who wants to be next!"

PATH TO THE TOP 10: Never before ranked

WHERE HE'S HEAD-

ED: A phenomenal rookie year could be followed by a sophomore slump, though that seems highly unlikely. Goldberg may want to take a good look at the career path of The Giant. The behemoth also came out of obscurity to capture the number-two spot in 1996 and has remained a dominant figure in the sport. But he seemed to lose his edge after he lost the WCW



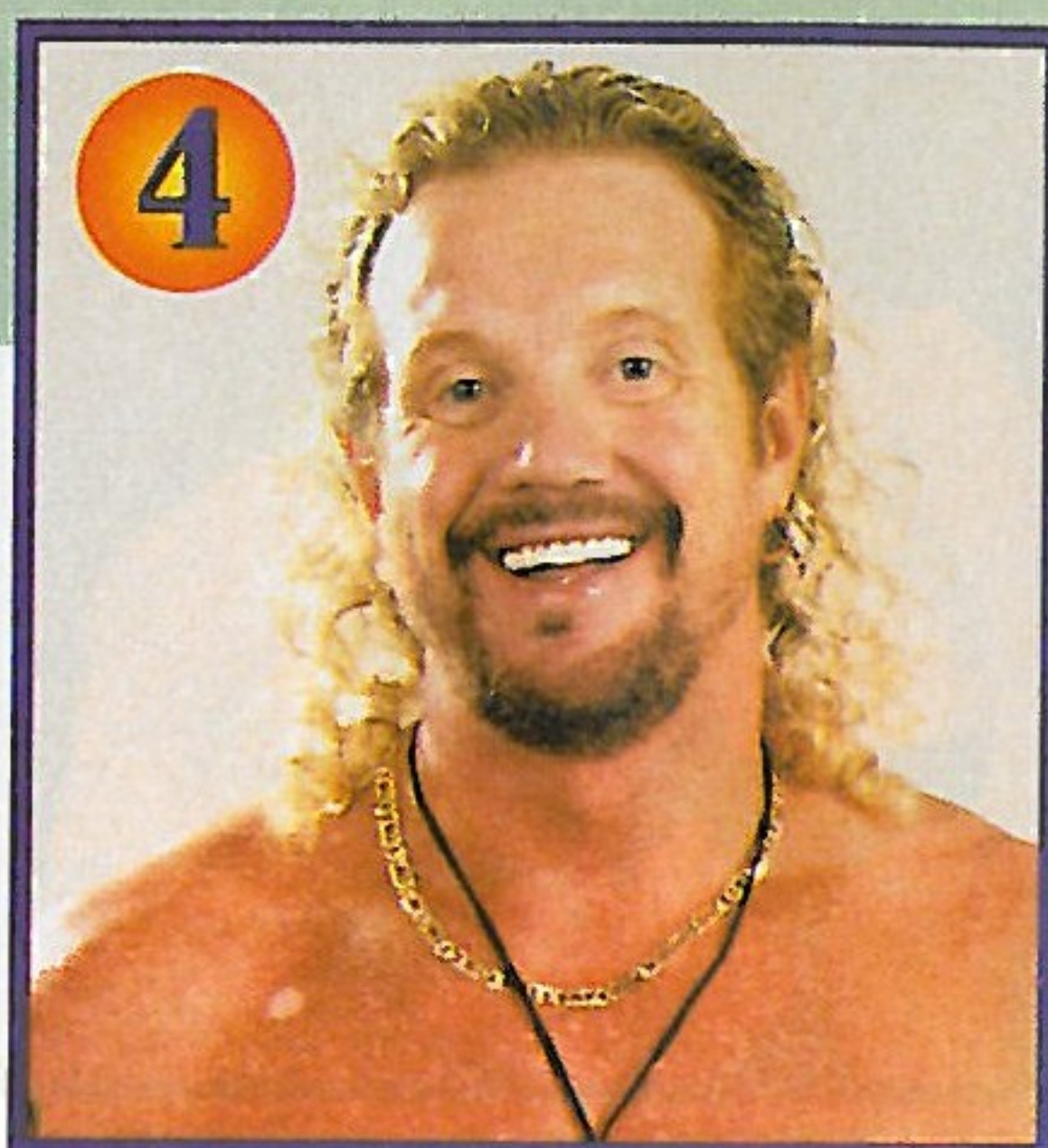
World title and has yet to regain it. Goldberg needs to be ready for his inevitable first loss. He can't get too down on himself when it does happen. If he does, others will sense a new vulnerability in him and take advantage of it. But Goldberg has handled everything else well, so he'll probably rebound well from the first loss. He could even move up a spot next year.

DALLAS PAGE

(6'5", 260, 7, 4)

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

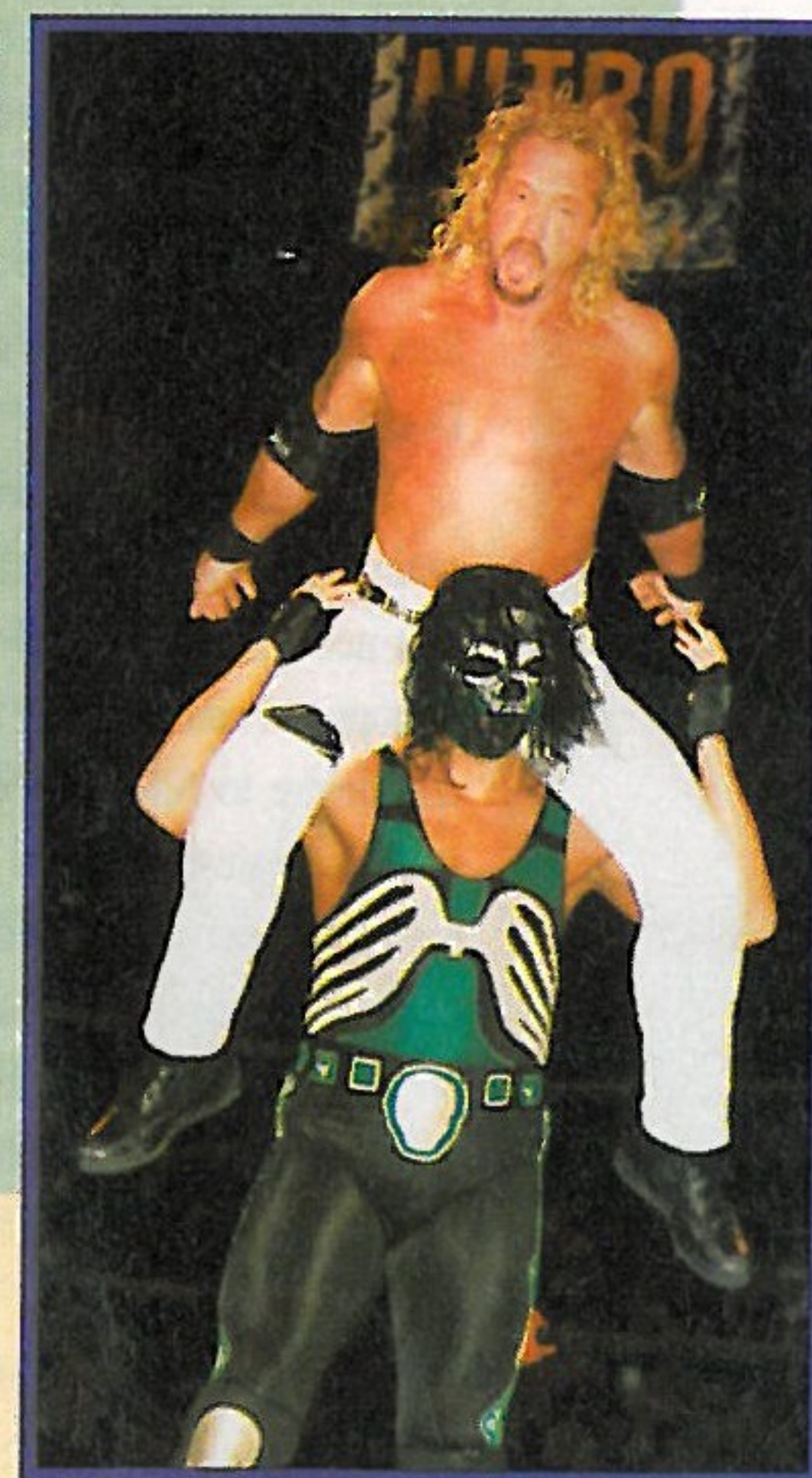
1. Defeated Curt Hennig for the WCW U.S. title at Starrcade. 2. Teamed with Jay Leno to defeat Hollywood Hogan and Eric Bischoff at Road Wild. 3. Came to Leno's defense and attacked Hollywood Hogan on *The Tonight Show* in July. 4. Defeated Raven in a bowery death match at Slamboree. 5. Defeated Chris



Benoit and Raven in a triple jeopardy match at Uncensored.

HE SAID IT: "I always said that staying here would be harder than getting here. How true that is. I'm proud to maintain my spot in the '500,' and I know that I've earned this spot. That being said, I also know that if next year is any more difficult than this year, I have my work cut out for me. I've achieved my greatest accomplishment in winning the U.S. title, but I've also faced some of my toughest challenges. Raven, Hennig, and now

Hollywood Hogan. Next year I'll be focused on winning that World title. Let the NWOs battle it out amongst each other. I've got bigger fish to fry. Many more people need to feel the 'bang.'"



Page is riding high

undefeated streak. Page needs to refocus his efforts on the U.S. and World titles. He hasn't necessarily peaked at number four. He is good enough and tough enough to climb higher next year.

PATH TO THE TOP
10: Unranked from 1991 to 1993; 270th in 1994; 11th in 1995; 54th in 1996; 4th in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEAD-

ED: Page has gone from mid-card also-ran to main eventer in the span of just a few years. He is now headlining pay-per-views with celebrities like Karl Malone and Jay Leno. Perhaps it's time for Page to grab a little more of the spotlight for himself. Forget about the NBA stars and talk show hosts and focus on his needs and goals. He may very well be a dark horse in the race to unseat Goldberg as WCW World champ and end his

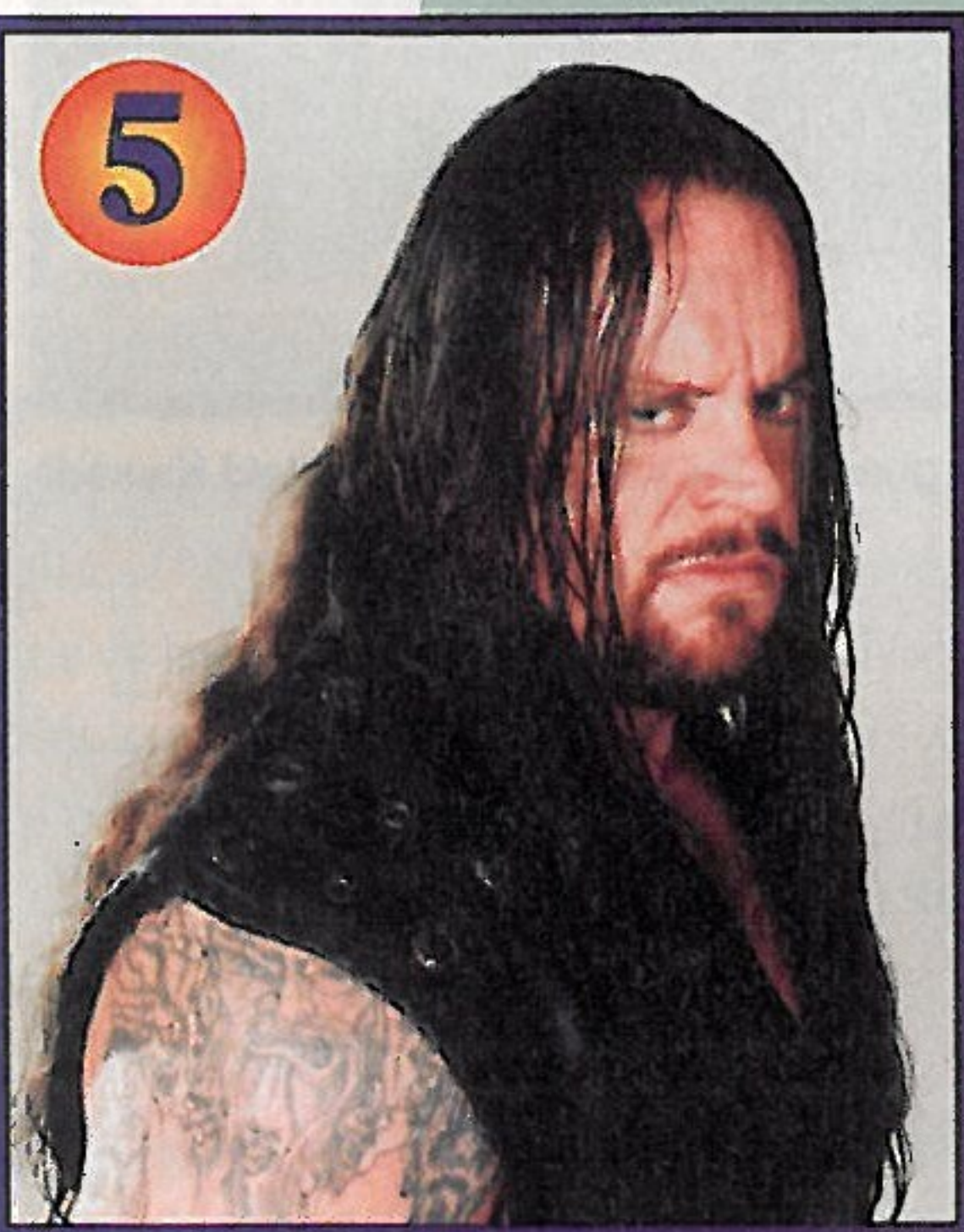
THE UNDERTAKER

(6'9", 328, 10, 6)

Nearly ended the career of Mankind in their "Hell In A Cell" match at King of the Ring. 4. Defeated Kane in an "inferno" match at Unforgiven. 5.

Choke-slammed Vince McMahon on two different occasions on *Raw*.

HE SAID IT: "This year could be considered my greatest year ever. I was on top of the WWF as the World champion. But the minute my brother Kane came on to the scene, everything unraveled. I have been able to get some measure of revenge against him, but our feud is far from over. Now Vince McMahon wants to control my destiny, but he does not understand one crucial thing about me. The Undertaker controls his own destiny. Many have said that I have changed, but that is not true. Many say that I am in cahoots with my brother. Let them think



TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Teamed with Steve Austin to defeat Kane and Mankind for the WWF World tag team title at Fully Loaded. 2. Defeated his half-brother Kane in their first encounter at WrestleMania XIV. 3.

what they want to think. I will bury my opposition as I have always done, no matter who it is."

PATH TO THE TOP 10: Unranked in 1991; 21st in 1992; 46th in 1993; 23rd in 1994; 14th in 1995; 19th in 1996; 6th in 1997

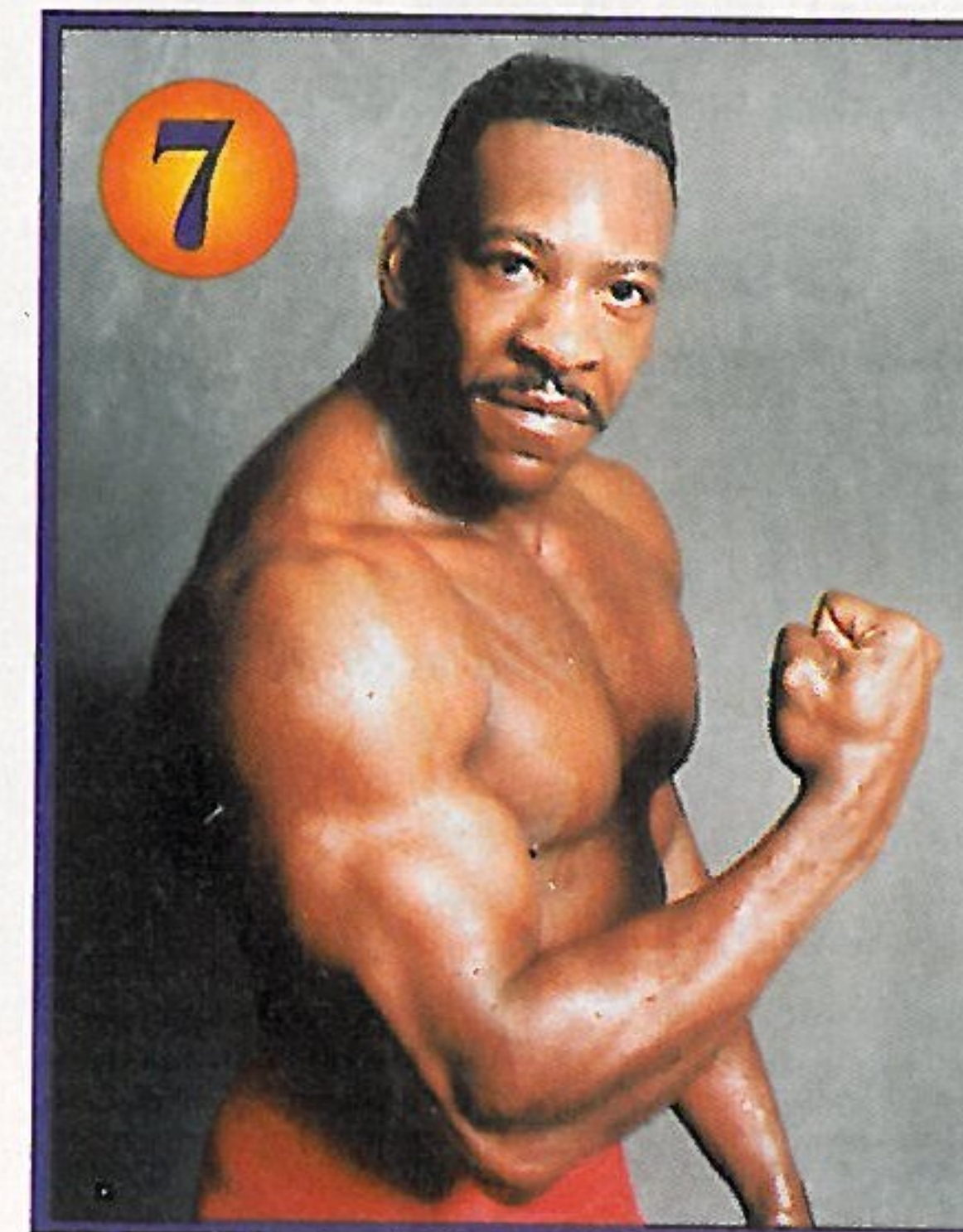
WHERE HE'S HEADED: Is The Undertaker a fan favorite or a rulebreaker? Right now, he seems to be in a state of transition, traumatized by his feud with his half-brother. There is definitely an edge to the man from the dark side that we have not seen since his debut in the federation. He is indignant toward McMahon and indifferent toward Steve Austin. He is a man with no alliances, and if he regains the World title, he will have little if any protection from friends. Perhaps the best thing for him to do at this point is to reunite with Bearer and son for the sake of his future.



"Taker choke-slams Billy Gunn

BOOKER T

(6'1½", 250, 8, 84)

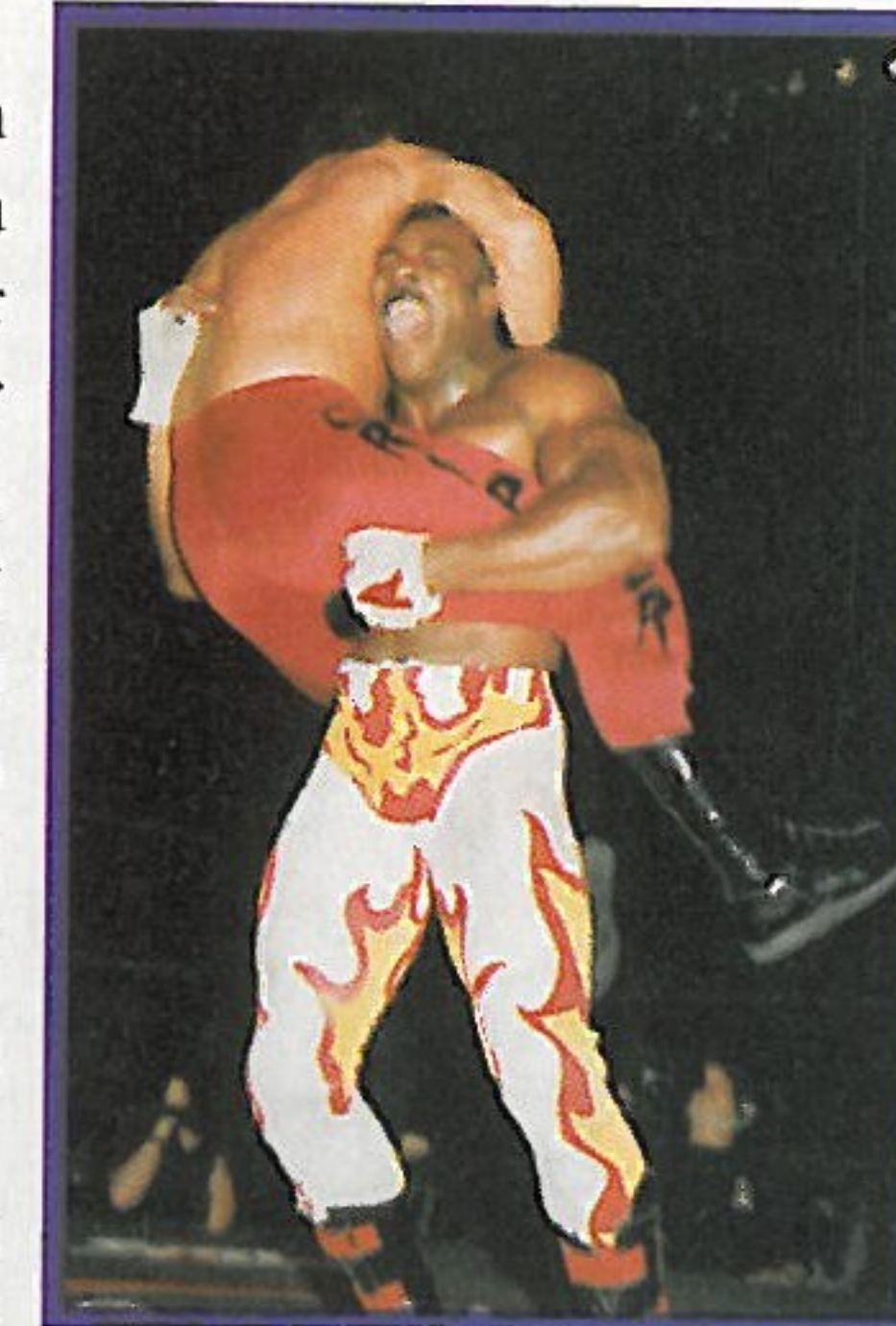


TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Defeated Disco Inferno to win the first of his five WCW TV titles on the December 29 *Nitro*. 2. Defeated Rick Martel to regain the TV belt at SuperBrawl, then pinned Saturn in a title defense

immediately afterward. 3. On two separate occasions in May, defeated Chris Benoit for the TV belt one night after Benoit had unseated him. 4. Won his fifth TV title by defeating Dave Finlay at The Great American Bash, the same night he had beaten Benoit to earn the title shot. 5. Pinned Benoit at Spring Stampede.

HE SAID IT: "No one gave me a chance. They said that once Harlem Heat broke up, I would be lost in the shuffle. Well, I proved those suckers wrong. I am more than just one-half of a tag team. Look at me. I'm a five-time WCW TV champion. Ain't no one can say that they've ever done that. I have faced the best that WCW has to offer, and I continue to defy what those experts say. If you would have said one year ago that I would be in the top 10 in the 'PWI 500,' most people would have laughed at you. Not me. I've always believed in myself."



Booker proved himself against Benoit

PATH TO THE TOP 10: Unranked from 1991-94; 89th in 1995; 86th in 1996; 84th in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEADED: The next year will be a pivotal one for Booker T. Now that his brother and partner, Stevie Ray, is back, he needs to commit to either tag team wrestling or singles competition. While he was on the injured list this summer, he apparently gave his blessing to Stevie Ray to defend the belt for him, and he ended up losing

it to Chris Jericho. There's no reason to think Booker won't have an excellent chance to regain that championship once he returns. A feud with Stevie Ray also seems inevitable, but let's hope it never develops. That way Booker can focus not only on the TV title, but also on the U.S. and perhaps the WCW World title. He definitely has the skills and drive to step up his level of competition and move up in this survey.

KENTA KOBASHI

(6'2", 261, 10, 15)

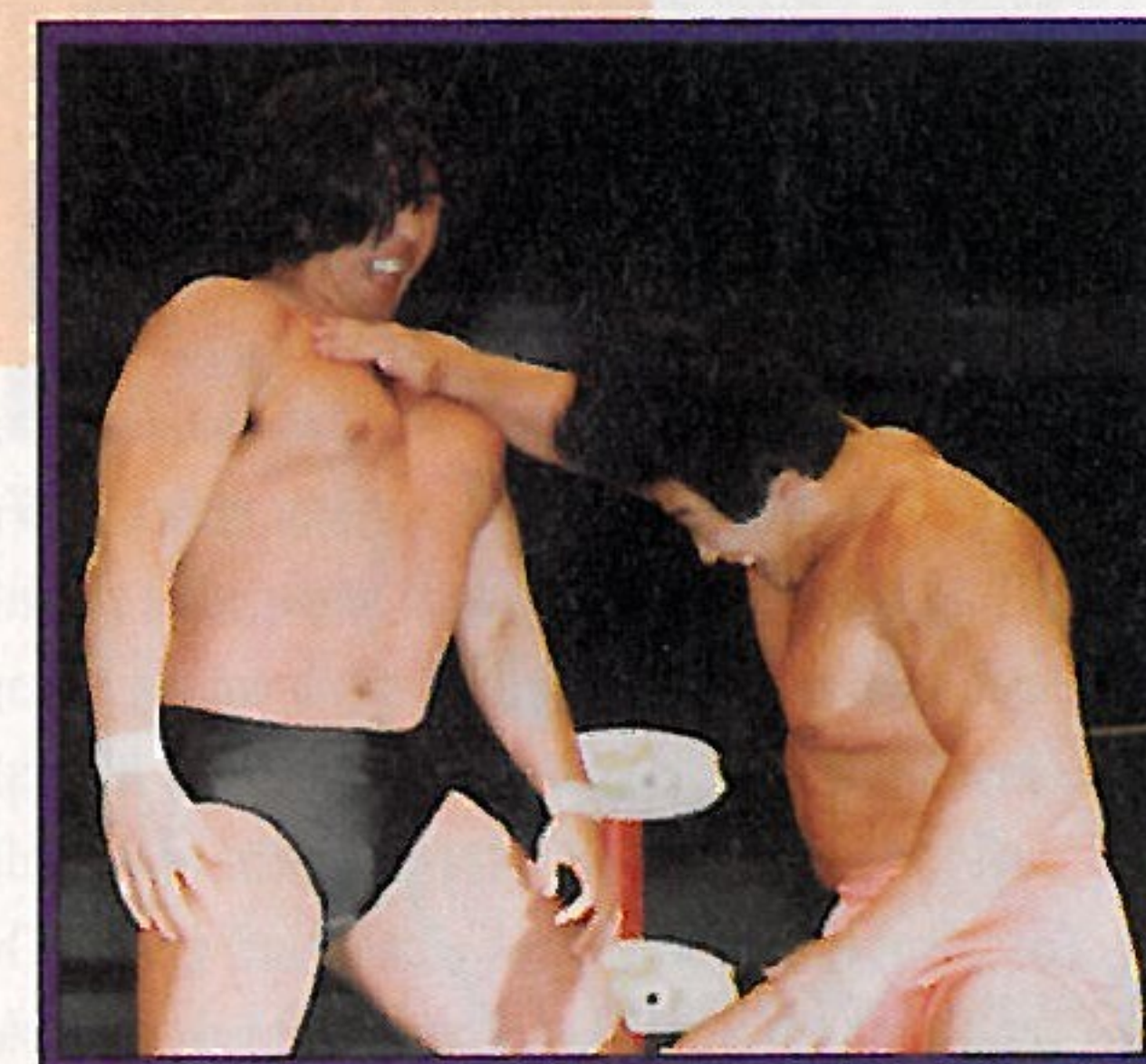
Stan Hansen and Vader at the All-Japan Tokyo Dome show on May 1.

HE SAID IT: "I am truly privileged to be once again counted among the elite 10 in the world. I feel that now, in my second reign as Triple Crown champion, I can show my fans that I have the heart and desire to fulfill my potential as one of the world's greatest wrestlers. My goal now is to show everyone around the world that I am ready for any and all challenges, and that I will back down from no one. I welcome the competition from great athletes wherever they may be, and I look forward to proving myself over and over again to all fans everywhere."

PATH TO THE TOP 10: Unranked in 1991 and 1992; 69th in 1993; 37th in 1994; 64th in 1995; 4th in 1996; 15th in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEADED: Despite his consistently outstanding performances, Kobashi is generally not included among the all-time greats of Japanese wrestling. Kobashi seems to be driven by his desire to make it into this exclusive group of

athletes, and it has pushed him to greater heights than ever before. But he is now trapped in a difficult spot: He longs to compete outside of All-Japan and to make a name for himself in other countries. However, he does not want to leave his homeland until he is given a chance to prove his mettle against Mitsuharu Misawa, who is currently injured. A clean pin of a healthy Misawa would probably be more valuable to Kobashi than any title or award. Kobashi will do whatever it takes to get a match in which he can secure his spot as All-Japan's top athlete.



Kobashi goes for Yoshihiro Takayama's throat

KEN SHAMROCK

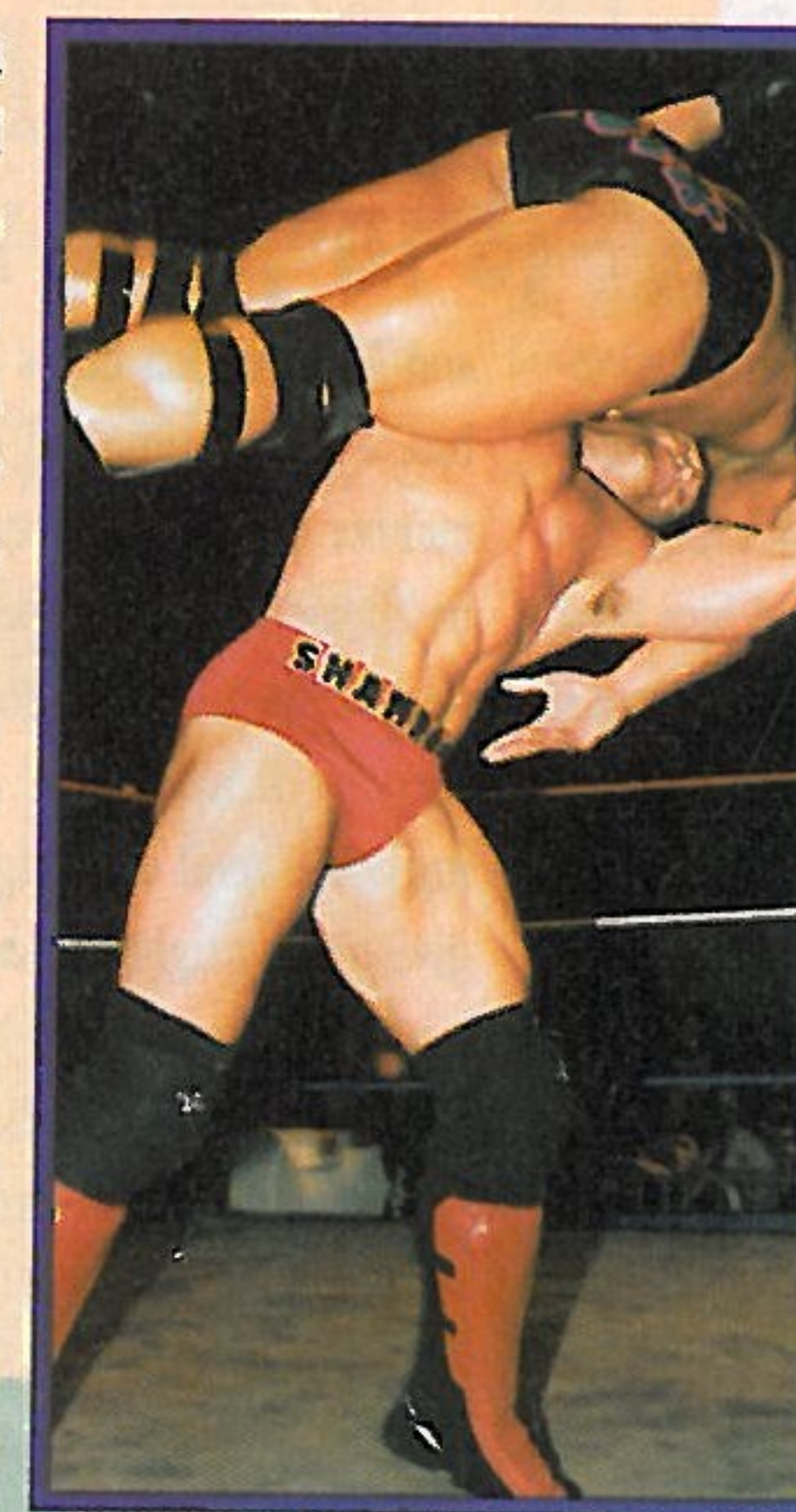
(6', 235, 9, 38)

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Defeated Rocky Maivia to win the 1998 King of the Ring tournament. 2. Defeated Owen Hart and Hunter Hearst Helmsley in the "King Of Kings" match one night later. 3. Forced Intercontinental champ Rocky Maivia to submit at WrestleMania XIV, even though the decision was

later reversed. 4. With Steve Blackman and Faarooq, defeated The Nation at Unforgiven. 5. Defeated Owen Hart in their first meeting after Owen broke Shamrock's ankle.

HE SAID IT: "First the King of the Ring and now this, a top 10 ranking in the 'PWI 500.' When I first got to the WWF, I was known as an elite competitor from the Ultimate Fighting Championships. I wanted to accomplish a lot more, so this ranking means a lot to me. But I have many more goals to accomplish, and there are many more men standing in my way. The crown is fine, but I need gold around my waist. I also feel like it's up to me to rid the WWF of The Nation. And of course Mr. Severn and myself have a few issues to settle. I know that my temper has cost me in the past, but I hope the fans



Shamrock wrestles all-out, all the time

will stick with me. I will not let them down."

PATH TO THE TOP 10: Unranked from 1991-94; 157th in 1995; 236th in 1996; 38th in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEADED: Two words: Dan Severn. Can these two possibly avoid each other? The inevitable confrontation will settle some personal issues between the two, but it might not bring Shamrock any closer to a WWF title. An alliance with Severn might be more productive. One thing Shamrock must do is learn to control that famous temper of his. He had the WWF Intercontinental title won at WrestleMania, but he let his rage consume him and basically forced the referee to reverse the decision. He has the skills to win any title in the WWF, but is he mentally ready to win the big match? If he's to stay in the top 10 next year, he'll likely need to claim at least one title.

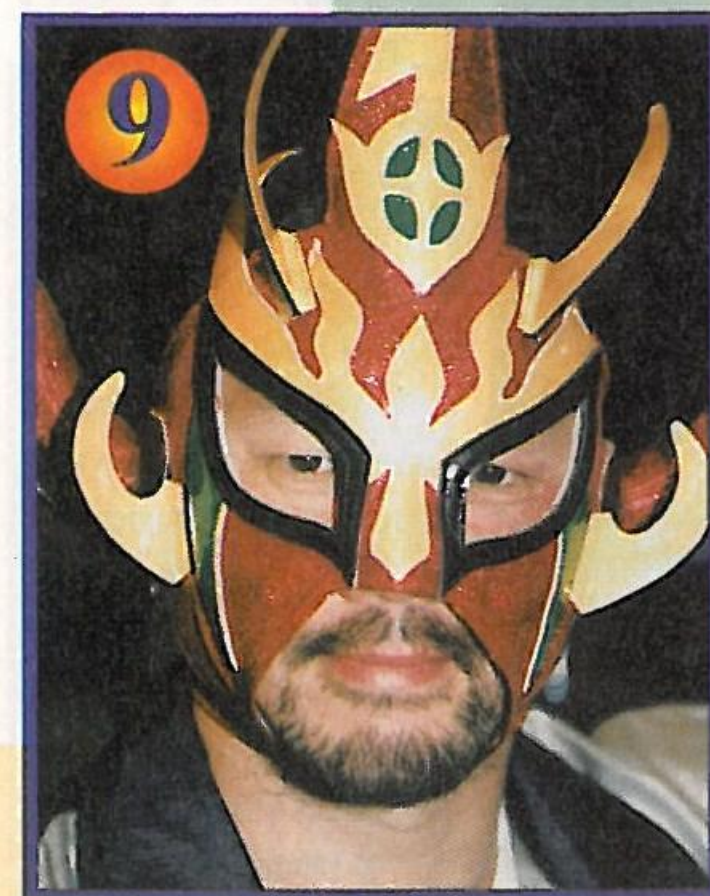


TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Won his second All-Japan Triple Crown by pinning Toshiaki Kawada on June 12. 2. Took his first singles win over Kawada when he pinned him during the Champion's Carnival in April. 3. Silenced critics by defending the Triple Crown successfully against Johnny Ace just weeks after winning it. 4. Defeated Jun Akiyama on July 24. 5. Teamed with Johnny Ace to upset

JUSHIN LIGER

(5'6", 213, 15, 9)

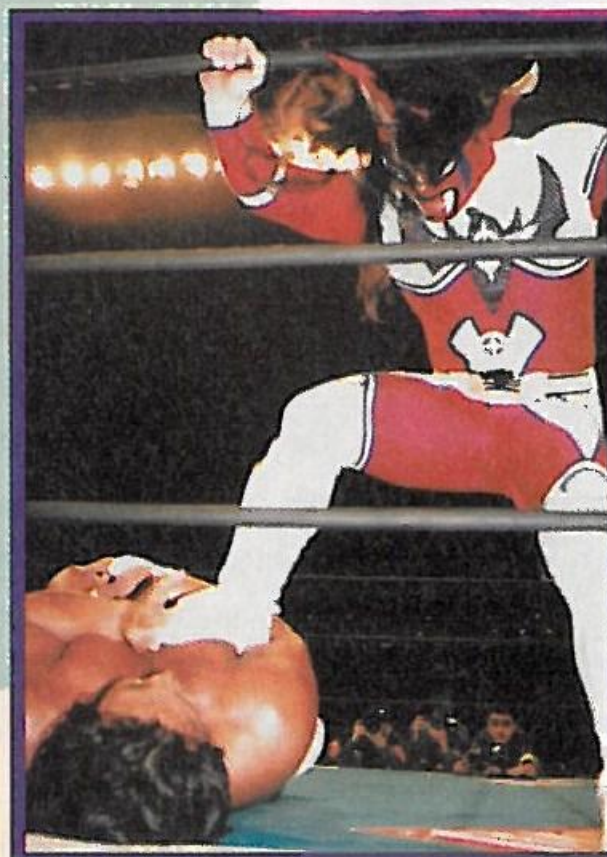


TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Won his ninth IWGP junior heavyweight title by pinning Shinjiro Otani on February 7. 2. Retained the title by defeating Koji Kanemoto on July 15 in the wake of Kanemoto's "Best Of

Super Junior" tourney win. 3. Took partner Kendo Ka Shin to the limit on April 4 and defeated him in his toughest title defense this year. 4. With partners El Samurai and Kendo Ka Shin, soundly defeated the team of Shinjiro Otani, Koji Kanemoto, and Tatsuhiro Takaiwa in March and April. 5. Used his influence to persuade NJPW promoters to start a tag team division for junior heavyweights.

HE SAID IT: "It means a lot to me to be recognized as one of the top wrestlers not just in Japan, but in the world. There were many who doubted whether I would be able to regain my place among the greats in the world after I had my brain tumor, but I always knew in my heart that I could. Many people in Japan regard me as the best junior heavyweight ever, and when I hear them say that, I am very proud. I



Liger's been walking all over his competition

am inspired to continue to be the best I can be."

PATH TO THE TOP 10: 27th in 1991; 18th in 1992; 21st in 1993; 21st in 1994; 143rd in 1995; 38th in 1996; 9th in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEADED: Jushin "Thunder" Liger has time and time again proven himself to be one of top international superstars in wrestling history. He has returned from a number of potentially career-ending injuries, and each time his legend has grown. He has won titles in a variety of weight classes and competed on five continents. He continues to get stronger with every outing. It seems as if Liger is always in peak form, and he shows no sign of slowing down. Having won the J-Crown and nine IWGP junior titles, this superstar has already laid the groundwork for his legacy as the greatest lightweight of the '90s.

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

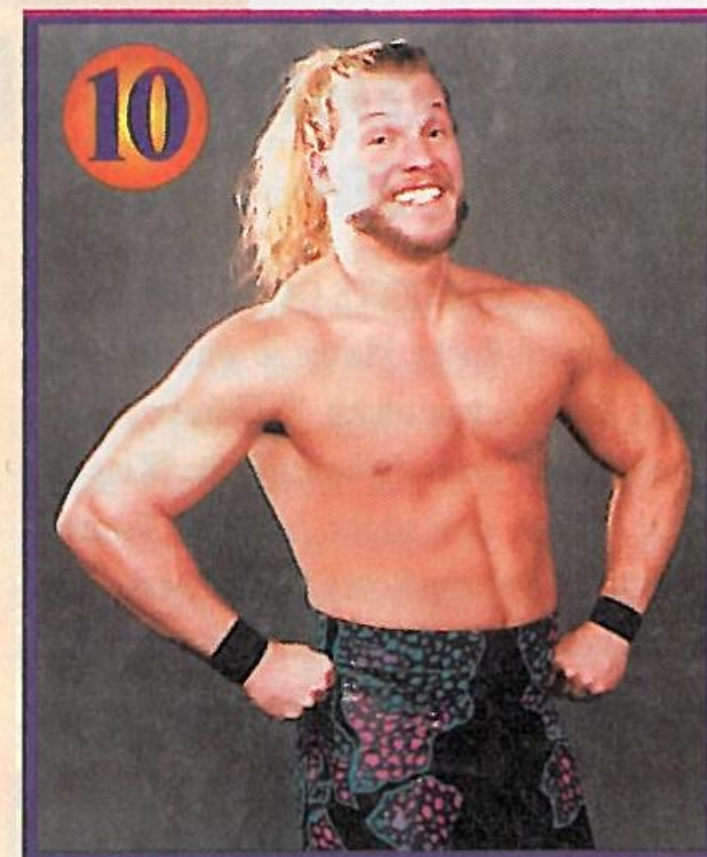
1. Forced Rey Mysterio Jr. to submit to win the WCW cruiserweight title at Souled Out. 2. Beat Juventud Guerrera in a belt vs. mask match at SuperBrawl. 3. Beat Dean Malenko so convincingly at Uncensored that Malenko took a two-month sabbatical to rethink his career. 4. Outwitted WCW officials, who were forced to hand him back the cruiserweight belt after he had apparently lost it at Bash at the Beach. 5. Defeated Stevie Ray for the WCW TV belt two nights after losing the cruiserweight belt at Road Wild.

HE SAID IT: "What is this number 10 crap all about? It is obviously a conspiracy between PWI

CHRIS JERICHO

(5'10", 225, 7, 26)

and Jo-Jo Dillon that's designed to make me look bad. I mean, come on! If 'Stinko' Malenko can be number one on this stupid list, then I should easily be higher than that! I mean, lower—well, you know what I mean. Don't confuse me! Right now, me and my 'Jerichoholics' are organizing a letter-writing and e-mail campaign to put a stop to this and give me my rightful place at the top. This is ridiculous. I am the greatest cruiserweight champion and TV champion WCW has ever seen. I have proven

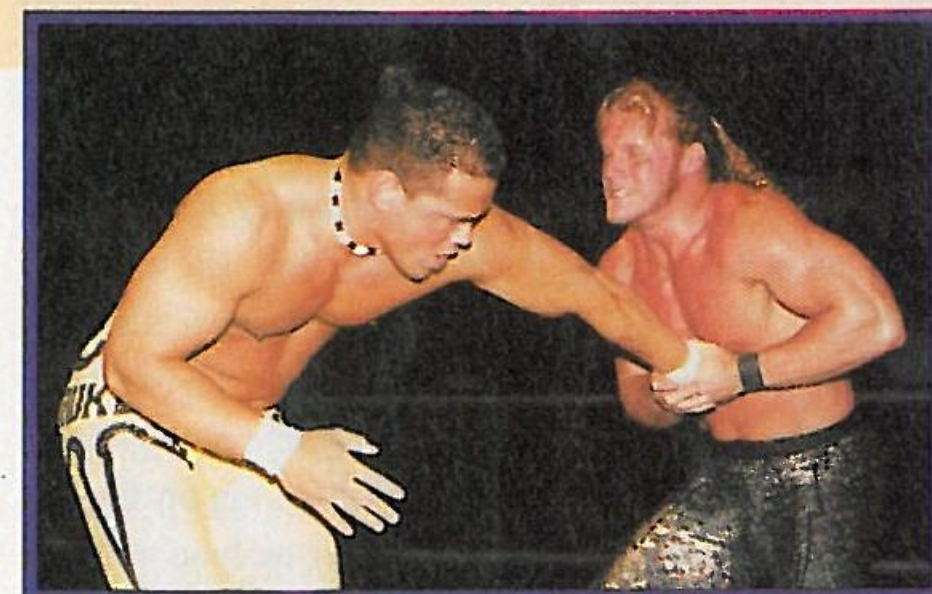


people would just as soon forget. He constantly defies authority and flaunts his knowledge of the WCW rulebook. He is crafty both in and out of the ring and has proven that you do not have to go NWO to draw the ire of the fans. But he deserves some credit for finding a way to jump-start his career. The more obnoxious he gets, the more success he seems to have. Will he be able to take the next step and start challenging (and beating) some of WCW's heavyweights? He might just be skilled enough to do it.

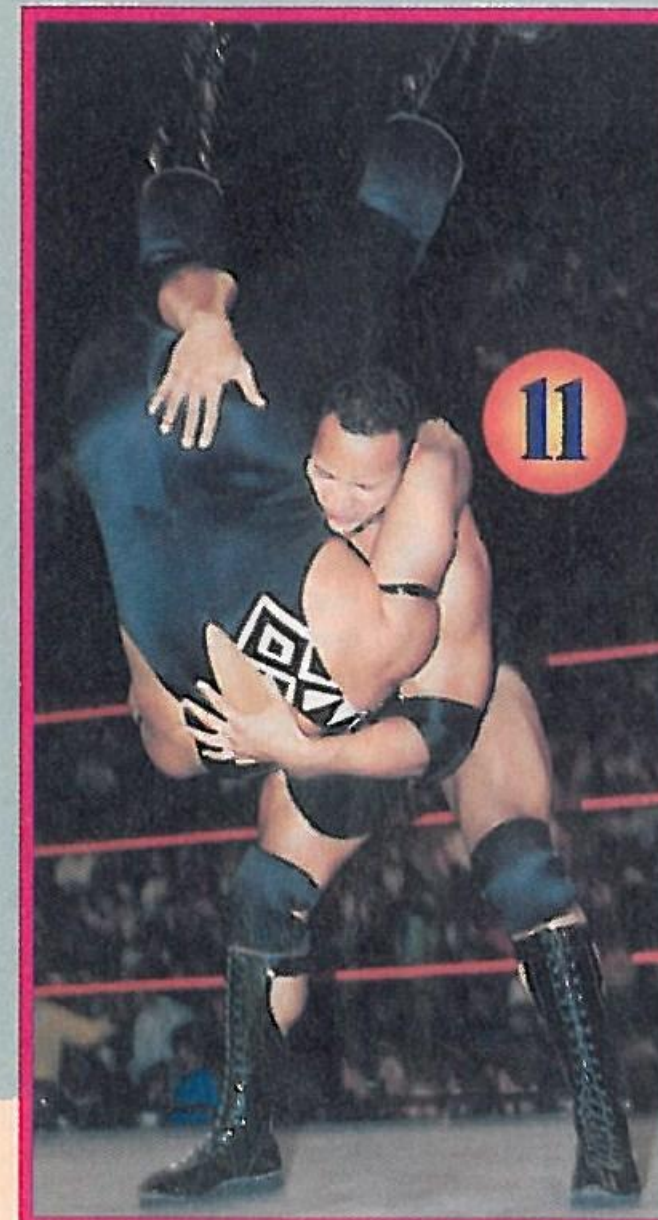
to Malenko, Mysterio, and everyone else that I am the best! Why can't I be recognized in this magazine? Why? Why? Why?"

PATH TO THE TOP 10: Unranked from 1991-95; 42nd in 1996; 26th in 1997

WHERE HE'S HEADED: Jericho has to be considered for the Most Improved Wrestler of the Year award for 1998. He has gone from a respectable wrestler to one many



Jericho stretches the rules—and some limbs



Rocky loves to lay the smack down

11 ROCKY MAIVIA (6'4", 272, 3, 103) "The Rock" came into his own this year by overthrowing Faarooq as the leader of The Nation ... Current Intercontinental champ also refers to himself as the "People's Champ" ... His interviews are among the most entertaining in wrestling ... Smart technical wrestler who probably could win the World title if he got over his obsession with the fans' boos.

12 STING (6'2", 260, 12, NL) Returned to active competition at Starrcade and won the WCW World title from Hollywood Hogan under controversial circumstances ... Later, saw the title held up ... Won the title again in the rematch at SuperBrawl ... Joined NWO Wolfpac early in the summer and started feuding with former partner The Giant ... Now trying to regain the WCW World tag team title from The Giant and Scott Hall ... "Scorpion deathlock" finisher is even deadlier than his "Scorpion deathlock."

13 TATSUMI FUJINAMI (6'1", 238, 27, 81) The 44-year-old ring veteran showed once again why he is called a legend when he won the IWGP heavyweight title for a sixth time, defeating Kensuke Sasaki ... Stunned fans and insiders by cleanly beating heavy favorite Shinya Hashimoto with his signature move, the "Dragon Sleeper" ... His success in both the junior and heavyweight classes through the years can be attributed to his great stamina.

14 ROB VAN DAM (6', 237, 8, 32) Managed by Bill Alfonso, "Mr. Monday Night" electrifies ECW crowds with high-risk maneuvers ... Currently holds the ECW TV title and ECW tag team straps with partner Sabu ... Has had a rocky relationship with Sabu and even wrestled him at ECW's Wrestlepalooza PPV ... The match ended in a draw ... Considered to be one of the top young international wrestlers.

15 OWEN HART (5'10", 227, 12, 16) Former WWF Intercontinental, European, and World tag team champion ... Joined The Nation after distinguishing himself as a loner ... Seriously injured Steve Austin's neck with a piledriver at SummerSlam '97, but still lost the I-C title to him ... Feuding with former partner Ken Shamrock, who has been beating him in submission matches around the country ... Can mix it up well with high-flyers and heavyweights ... A superb technical wrestler with great ingrained wrestling knowledge, but he should know better than to try to match submission holds with Shamrock.

16 RANDY SAVAGE (6'2", 237, 23, 19) Member of NWO Wolfpac ... Defeated Sting for the WCW World title in April, only to lose it to Hollywood Hogan a day later ... Suffered a partially torn ACL during an earlier match with Sting ... For months, he was intent on battling Page until one of them was out of wrestling ... Intensity in the ring is matched by no one ... Top-rope elbowdrop is still one of the most effective moves in wrestling ... Was involved in feuds with Bret Hart and Roddy Piper at the time his ACL was completely torn ... Also teamed with Piper—go figure.

17 TOSHIKI KAWADA (5'10", 230, 17, 14) Fulfilled his career goal when he won the All-Japan Triple Crown from Mitsubaru Misawa in a brutal 30-minute match ... Later lost the title to Kenta Kobashi ... Has won numerous tag team championships with partner Akira Tane ... Easily recognized by his trademark black and yellow tights ... Uses the "folding power bomb" and "backdrop driver" as finishers ... Uses his vast knowledge to destroy opponents with hard kicks to the face and head.

18 EL HIJO DEL SANTO (5'6", 170, 16, 65) A second-generation star, his dad was El Santo, the most popular wrestler in Mexican wrestling history ... Has held virtually every welterweight title in Mexico (WWA, UWA, Mexican National), as well as the AAA tag team title and UWA lightweight title ... Often uses a tope suicida, flying headscissors, and the camel clutch (his favorite finisher) ... Wrestled as a *tecnico* until turning *rudo* in November 1996; this rulebreaking turn could be compared to that of Hogan in '96 ... Biggest rival is Negro Casas, a man he has been battling for more than 10 years.

19 CHRIS BENOIT (5'10", 218, 12, 10) "The Canadian Crippler" spent the better part of the year breaking out of the WCW cruiserweight pack ... Traded the WCW TV belt with Booker T twice this spring ... Battled Booker T in a best-of-seven series, but the seventh match ended in controversy, so an eighth match was signed (Benoit lost) ... Might be a member of The Four Horsemen once again by the end of the year ... Considered by many to be the top all-around wrestler in the world.

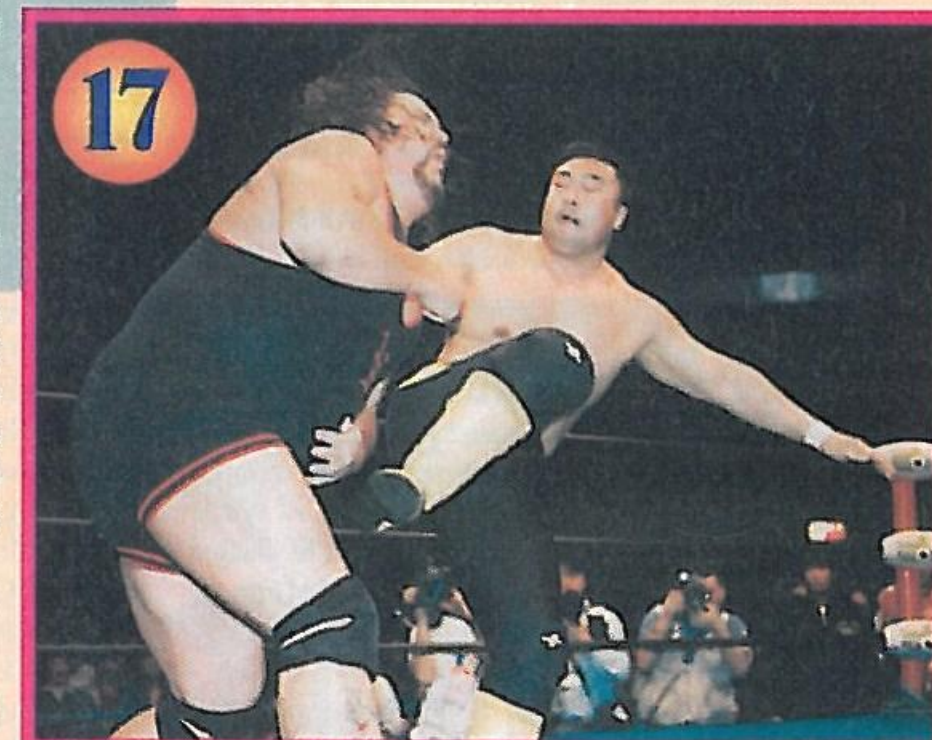
20 ULTIMO DRAGON (5'7", 173, 11, 12) One of the top cruiserweights in the world ... Relegated to WCW mid-card matches, but this doesn't stop him from displaying his



Juventud soared without his mask

outstanding technical and aerial abilities ... Defeated Eddy Guerrero for the WCW cruiserweight title in December, but was upended by Juventud Guerrera 11 days later ... Splits his time between WCW, Japan, and Mexico, where he has a training school ... Originated the Asai moonsault, but he prefers to finish off opponents with his "Dragon Sleeper" now.

21 KANE (6'7", 345, 4, 175) Half-brother of The Undertaker came forth this year to make his brother's life hell ... Along with proud papa Paul Bearer, Kane has dominated the upper echelon of the WWF and even defeated Steve Austin for the World title at King of the Ring ... His title reign lasted but 24 hours, though, as he lost the title back to Austin ... Got his hands on some more gold two weeks later, when he and Mankind won the World tag team title ... They lost those belts to Austin and "Taker at Fully Loaded, then got them back in August ... Uses the "tombstone" piledriver just like his big brother.



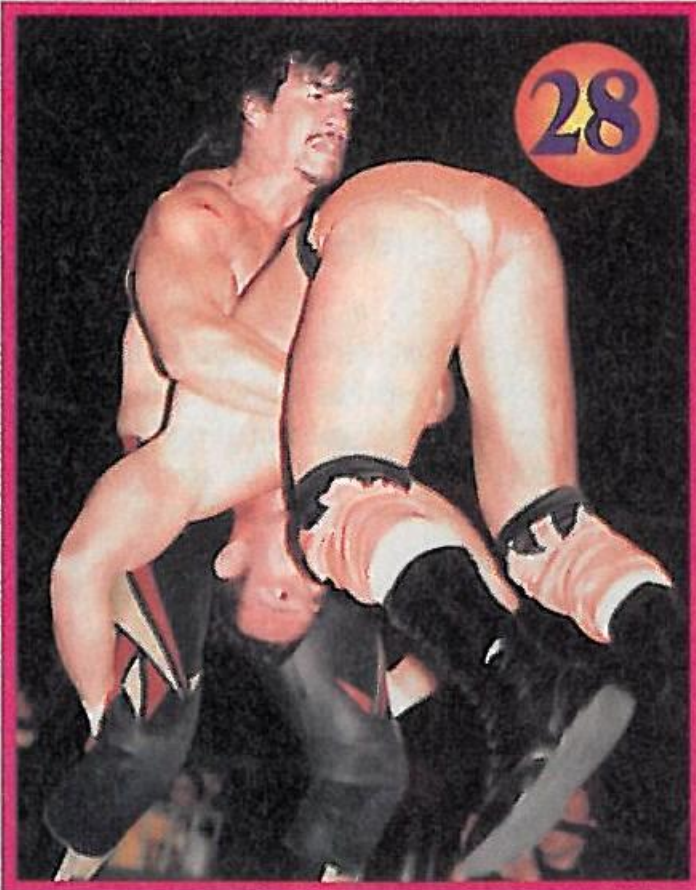
Kawada nails Gary Albright in the gut

22 TAKA MICHINOKU (5'7", 171, 7, 230) WWF light heavyweight champ has taken decisive victories over all top contenders, including Brian Christopher, Pantera, and Aguila ... Fulfilled a career-long goal by wrestling at Madison Square Garden this year ... Was attacked repeatedly by his former Kaientai teammates, who followed him to the WWF and finally convinced him to rejoin the group ... Uses many breathtaking springboard moves to the floor ... Almost always finishes off opponents with his "Michinoku Driver."

23 KENSUKE SASAKI (5'10", 270, 12, 36) Silenced all critics when he defeated IWGP heavyweight kingpin Shinya Hashimoto for the title last year ... Won the belt again by besting Tatum Fujinami in August ... Had some classic bouts this year with the up-and-coming Osamu Nishimura ... One of New Japan's perennial fan favorites ... Husband of former WCW Women's champ Akira Hokuto ... Likes to crush opponents with his signature "Northern Lights Bomb."

24 HUNTER HEARST HELMSLEY (6'5", 279, 7, 31) Supplanted Shawn Michaels as the leader of DeGeneration X ... Embroiled in a bitter feud with The Nation ... Former WWF European champ lost the title to D-Lo Brown after Rocky Maivia interfered ... Does a great Rocky Maivia impersonation ... Never without his menacing bodyguard, Chyna ... One of the more obnoxious wrestlers in the WWF, his once-haughty attitude has given way to sophomoric comedy ... Relies too much on outside interference to win matches.

25 JUVENTUD GUERRERA (5'5", 165, 6, 40) This Promo Azteca mainstay is the son of Fuerza Guerrera ... Had a breakout year in WCW and even won the cruiserweight title twice ... Had to unmask in WCW when Chris Jericho defeated him at SuperBrawl VIII, but continues to wear it in Mexico ... Sets up his 450 splash finisher with a "Michinoku Driver II," which he calls his "Juvi Driver" ... Feuding with Tarzan Boy and El Zorro in Promo Azteca.



Uncle Eddy dishes out some punishment

26 MICK FOLEY (6'4", 277, 15, 51) Whatever his personality is that day, Mick Foley is sure to put his body through hell ... Dude Love sold out to WWF owner Vince McMahon to gain a World title shot against Austin ... After loss to Austin, was fired, then rehired by McMahon ... Now under the management of "Uncle" Paul Bearer again ... Lost to The Undertaker in a "Hell In A Cell" match in which he plunged twice from the top of a cage. One drop sent him 15 feet from the top of the cage through a table at ringside ... Now *that's* hardcore.

27 JUN AKIYAMA (6', 231, 6, 79) Youngest of the key players in All-Japan Pro Wrestling has proved his mettle in recent bouts against Hiroshi Hase and occasional partner Mitsuharu Misawa ... Managed to get to the finals of this year's "Champions Carnival," where he lost to Misawa ... Was unsuccessful in his Triple Crown title shots ... Breaks down opponents with knee attacks and forearms ... Uses of a wide variety of suplexes, but tends to use the "Exploder" suplex as his finishing move.

28 EDDY GUERRERO (5'8", 221, 11, 24) One of the top cruiserweights in the sport ... Underwent a personality change and became much more aggressive in the ring ... has held WCW cruiserweight title and WCW U.S. title ... Had several memorable bouts against Dean Malenko, Chris Benoit, and Ultimo Dragon ... Won a hair vs. hair match against nephew Chavo at Bash at the Beach.

29 LEX LUGER (6'5", 265, 13, 5) A member of NWO Wolfpac with Kevin Nash and Sting ... Won the U.S. belt from Bret Hart in August and is one of few top WCW stars World champ Bill Goldberg hasn't demolished ... Still has one of the most impressive physiques in the game ... The "rack" is still his favorite finisher ... Needs to concentrate on own career and add more depth to his repertoire.

30 SHANE DOUGLAS (6', 240, 12, 42) The leader of ECW's Triple Threat is never without "head cheerleader" Francine ... Currently holds the ECW heavyweight title, which he won from Bigelow at November to Remember in front of his hometown crowd in Pittsburgh ... Defeated Al Snow at Living Dangerously even though he had a badly injured elbow and various other injuries ... Currently serving as a color commentator on ECW's TV shows while rehabbing his elbow ... Very opinionated and very intense.

31 THE GIANT (7'4", 510, 3, 8) Had a rather uneventful year given his past glory ... Spent most of the year pro-WCW, only to jump on the NWO Hollywood bandwagon by mid-summer ... Teamed with Sting to win the WCW World tag team title, only to split from him ... Currently holds the WCW

World tag straps with Scott Hall as his partner ... Until his recent title win, the only spark in his career was the one coming from his cigarette lighter ... Choke-slam is still his finisher of choice, but it hasn't helped him in his quest to upset World champ Goldberg.

32 KOJI KANEMOTO (5'10", 200, 8, 88) The high-flying Kanemoto capped off a stellar year by winning the round-robin "Best Of The Super Junior" tournament ... Pinned Dr. Wagner Jr. in the finals ... Began his career as the third incarnation of Tiger Mask ... Immersed in a heated feud with Kendo Ka Shin ... A skilled martial artist and frequent partner of Shinjiro Otani and Tetsuhiro Kawai, who form the self-styled "New Generation" of New Japan juniors ... Pet move is the "Tiger suplex."

33 SABU (6', 220, 8, 34) Known as the "King Of The Hardcore" for his brutality and for what seems to be a total disregard for his own well-being ... Feuded briefly with partner Rob Van Dam over the ECW TV title, but rebounded with Van Dam to win the ECW tag team title from Lance Storm and Chris Candido ... Broke his cheekbone and jaw and lost a few teeth as a result of missing a triple moonsault and slamming head-first into a table during a match in December. He stopped briefly to tape up his face, then continued to wrestle ... Seems distracted by Van Dam at times.

34 NEGRO CASAS (5'7", 180, 19, 47) Veteran star of EMLL also has experience in Japan ... Biggest rival is El Hijo del Santo, with whom he has feuded all year ... Older brother of EMLL star El Felino and AAA star Heavy Metal ... Has held many titles in the middleweight, lightweight, and welterweight divisions in Mexico ... Competed mostly as a *rudo* during his career, but currently wrestles as a *tecnico* ... Considered one of the all-time greats in Mexico ... Uses a reverse DDT to set up one of his three finishers, the "Scorpion deathlock," "La Magistral cradle," or "Congrejo Japones."

35 DEAN MALENKO (5'9", 216, 18, 1) Last year's highest-ranked wrestler had an up-and-down year ... Suffered humiliating pay-per-view loss to Chris Jericho at Uncensored, which sent him into a two-month sabbatical ... Returned (disguised as Ciclope) to win a cruiserweight battle royal at The Great American Bash and thus earn a shot at the cruiserweight title ... Defeated Chris Jericho for cruiserweight title in this surprising return, but later gave up the title when Jericho challenged the legality of his battle royal win.

36 TAZ (5'9", 248, 11, 11) ECW's "Human Suplex Machine" strikes fear in all who cross his path ... His ECW TV title reign came to an end at Living Dangerously, when he was dropped through the mat, then pinned by Bam Bam Bigelow ... Teased a partnership with The Triple Threat, but he planned to sneak-attack ECW champ Shane Douglas all along ... Reinjured Douglas' elbow in July, putting Douglas out of action for several more months ... Now claims he is the true ECW champion and even carries a bogus belt around with him.

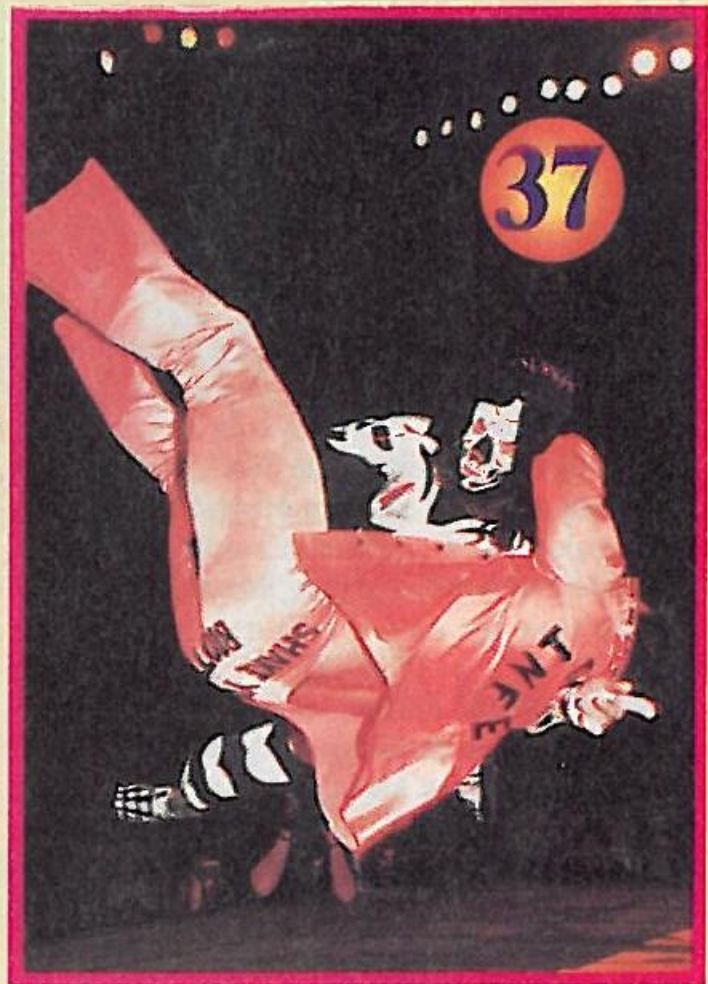
37 LA PARKA (6'1", 235, 11, 61) This Promo Azteca star is noted for his skeleton outfit and spastic dance fits during his matches ... Favors several aerial moves, including the tope suicida, corkscrew moonsault, and Asai moonsault ... Currently feuding with Pierroth Jr. and will face him in a mask

vs. mask match later this year ... Has held the Mexican National light heavyweight and WWA light heavyweight titles ... Has had only moderate success in WCW.

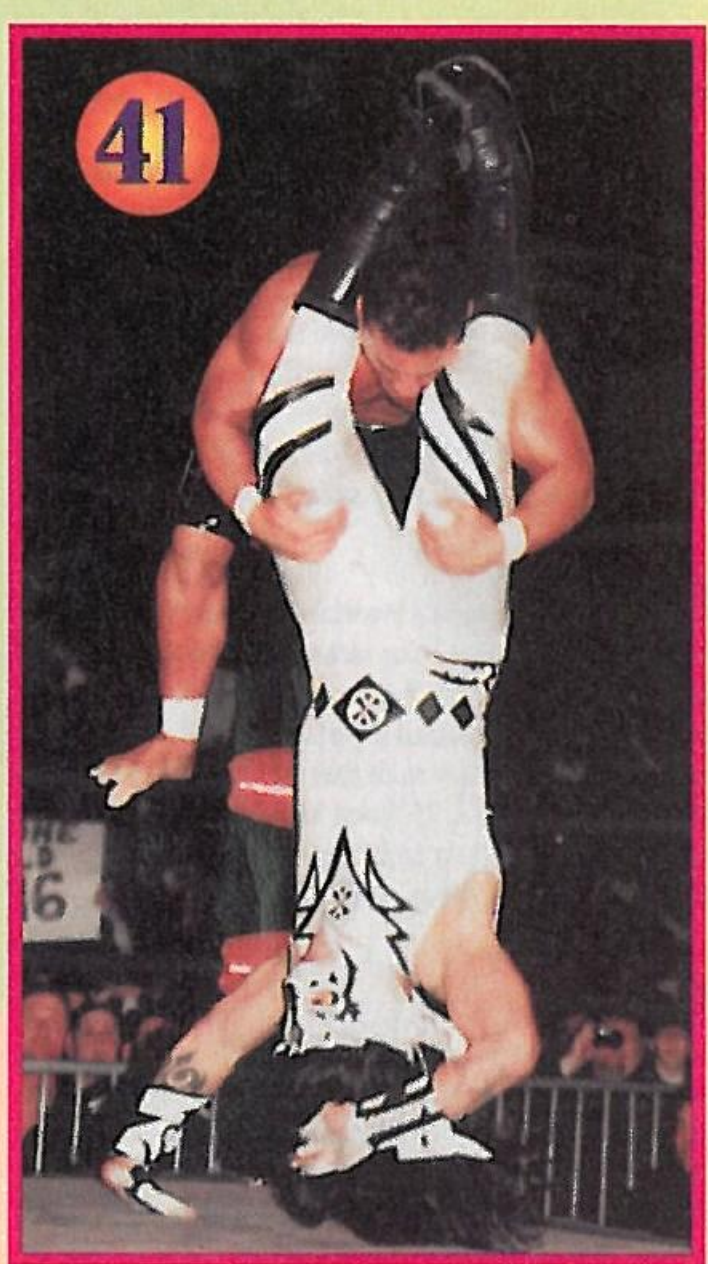
38 HAYABUSA (5'10", 179, 7, 196) FMW's top fan favorite ... His popularity now rivals that of former headliner Atsushi Onita ... Also competes for Michinoku Pro and All-Japan Pro Wrestling periodically ... One of the world's best pure high-flyers ... Frequent partner of Jinsei Shinzaki, with whom he teamed at ECW's Heatwave '98 pay-per-view (they lost to Rob Van Dam and Sabu) ... Went on a tear this year, capturing the singles title from Mr. Gannosuke ... Daredevil style has caused him to break more than half the bones in his body ... Favorite move is his "Star Dust Press," a corkscrew 450 splash.

39 KEVIN NASH (7', 356, 8, 13) "Big Sexy, The Giant Killer" is the leader of the NWO Wolfpac ... Held the WCW World tag title with former partner Scott Hall until Hall turned against him during a match against Sting and The Giant ... Also held the WCW tag belts with Sting ... Wrestled Hollywood Hogan to a no-contest on Nitro in June ... His leadership and interviews are two big reasons for the cheers the NWO Wolfpac has been hearing lately ... "Jackknife" power bomb finisher was banned by the WCW Executive Committee, but Nash still uses it, and he hasn't been fined lately for doing so.

40 BRET HART (6', 234, 22, 20) The "Hitman" has called WCW home since his ugly exit from the WWF last November ... Lost WWF World title in a controversial match to Shawn Michaels at Survivor Series ... Soon after arriving in WCW, he defeated long-time rival Ric Flair in some memorable matches ... Now a member of NWO Hollywood, he seems to be playing second fiddle to Hogan's ego ... Reigning U.S. champ after August victory over Lex Luger ... "Sharpshooter" finisher is still effective.



La Parka rattles Disco's bones



Psycho is deadly with his feet

41 PSYCHO (5'10", 200, 7, 52) This Promo Azteca star attended the same training camp as Rey Misterio Jr. ... Trained by Rey Misterio Sr. ... His top-roped guillotine legdrop is a deadly finisher ... His tope con hilo is arguably the best of any wrestler in Mexico ... Former WWA welterweight and WWA middleweight champ ... Feuded with La Parka and El Salsero this year ... Legendary battles with Misterio Jr. in Mexico are considered by many to be a 1990s version of the Tiger Mask vs. Dynamite Kid aerial matches in 1980s.

42 DAVE FINLAY (5'10", 230, 20, NL) Surprising choice of many opponents as the world's toughest wrestler ... Shocked everyone by defeating Booker T for the WCW TV belt in May ... Well, everyone but himself and those aforementioned opponents ... Lost the belt to Booker in June ... A brawny guy who can down you with one punch, then use his technical skill to make you submit ... Favorite move is the "tombstone" piledriver ... Previously competed in WCW as the "Belfast Bruiser."

43 JEFF JARRETT (5'10", 230, 12, 17) Left WCW for the WWF last fall ... Denounced his "Triple-I" persona at first, but quickly returned to his high-tech, *er*, singing ways under the tutelage of Tennessee Lee ... Beat Barry Windham for NWA North American title ... Wasn't thrilled with promoters' treatment, so he dumped them and went back to singing ... Dominated his feud with Steve Blackman this year ... Recently dumped Lee.

44 DAN SEIBERN (6'1", 270, 1, 82) Current NWA champion has held his title since February 1995 ... Entered the WWF as part of the NWA group headed by Jim Cornette, but quickly broke away from Cornette ... Advanced to the semifinals of the King of the Ring before losing to Rocky Maivia ... A former NWA Heavyweight Champion ... Had a series of memorable bouts with Dory Funk Jr. over the NWA title ... Feud with fellow UFWF standout Ken Shamrock figures to be one of the hottest in the WWF in late-1998.

45 CHRIS CANDIDO (5'8", 226, 8, 71) "No gimmicks needed" is the catch phrase of this accomplished Triple Threat star ... Held the ECW tag team title for

the better half of the year with Lance Storm ... Also feuded with Storm while still defending the tag title ... Could be forced to choose between the Triple Threat or his own individual success ... Often accompanied to the ring by Tammy Fytch, who caused problems between him and Storm in the first place.

46 MASAHIRO CHONO (5'11", 238, 15, 28) Leader of NWO Japan movement, which now operates under the banner of Aristocrat ... Frequent partner of Hiroyoshi Tenzan and Keiji Muto ... Won his fourth IWGP tag team title this year ... Defeated Tatsumi Fujinami for the IWGP heavyweight title in August ... Master of the STF, a hold taught to him by Lou Thesz ... Splits time between Japan and WCW ... Has taken a number of victories with his brutal Yakuza kick to the face.

47 DR. WAGNER JR. (5'9", 215, 12, 86) ... Current CMLL light heavyweight champ ... Lost to Koji Kanemoto in the final of New Japan Pro Wrestling's "Best Of The Super Junior" tournament in June ... Was the first Mexican-born wrestler to advance that far ... His lethal finisher is a form of the "Michinoku Driver II" in which he plants his opponent directly on his head ... He and Emilio Charles Jr. lost the CMLL tag belts in February and began feuding ... Feud might culminate in a mask vs. hair match ... Also held the CMLL tag title with brother Silver King and was a member of the CMLL Trios championship team.

48 BAM BAM BIGELOW (6'3", 368, 13, 126) A member of The Triple Threat in ECW ... Defeated Taz for the ECW TV title at Living Dangerously when he pinned him after both fell through the mat ... Also a former ECW heavyweight champion—he defeated current Triple Threat ally Shane Douglas to win that ... Turned against Taz to set up reformation of Triple Threat ... Top-roped moonsault is devastating considering his size.

49 SHAWN MICHAELS (6', 234, 15, 18) The controversial career of the "Heartbreak Kid" continues to get cloudier ... Regained WWF World title from Bret Hart at Survivor Series ... Lost it to Steve Austin at WrestleMania XIV ... A serious back injury has sidelined him since that PPV ... Founded DeGeneration X with Hunter Hearst Helmsley and Chyna ... Also a former WWF World tag team, Intercontinental, and European champion ... When healthy, has few peers inside a squared circle ... Worked as a broadcaster for

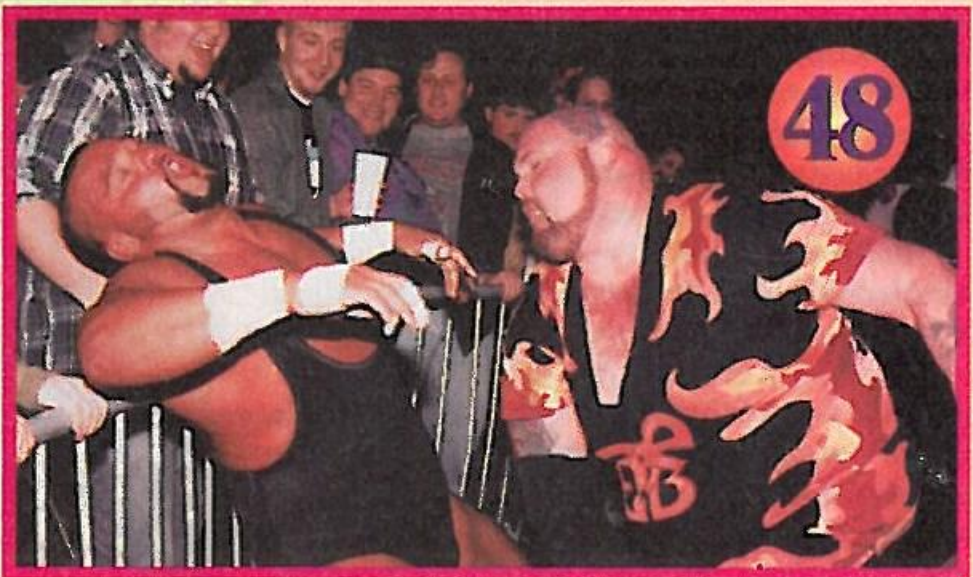


Mero's knee feels marvelous

the WWF on occasion this summer ... Most believe he'll return to the ring in early-1999.

50 RECKLESS YOUTH (5'8", 183, 3, 152) One of the almost every promotion in which he has wrestled ... Known for his aerial ability, but often uses the "Stretch Plum" submission hold to finish opponents ... Has wrestled everywhere from Illinois to Canada to Boston to the Carolinas ... A member of Revolution X in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling ... Spearheaded the "East Coast Invasion" in NSWA ... Dubbed by many as the "King Of The Independents," his fans have mixed feelings about a possible move to a major federation.

51 AKIRA TAUE (6'5", 266, 10, 33) Former All-Japan Triple Crown champ has been struggling in singles competition lately, although he and Toshiaki Kawada continue to dominate in tag team matches ... A big man who looks clumsy at first, but is agile enough to execute some beautiful dropkicks and topes ... Won the 1996 Champions Carnival, but didn't fare nearly as well this past year due in large part to a knee injury ... Feared for his "Nodowa" choke-slam.



Bigelow staggers Taz with an awesome right

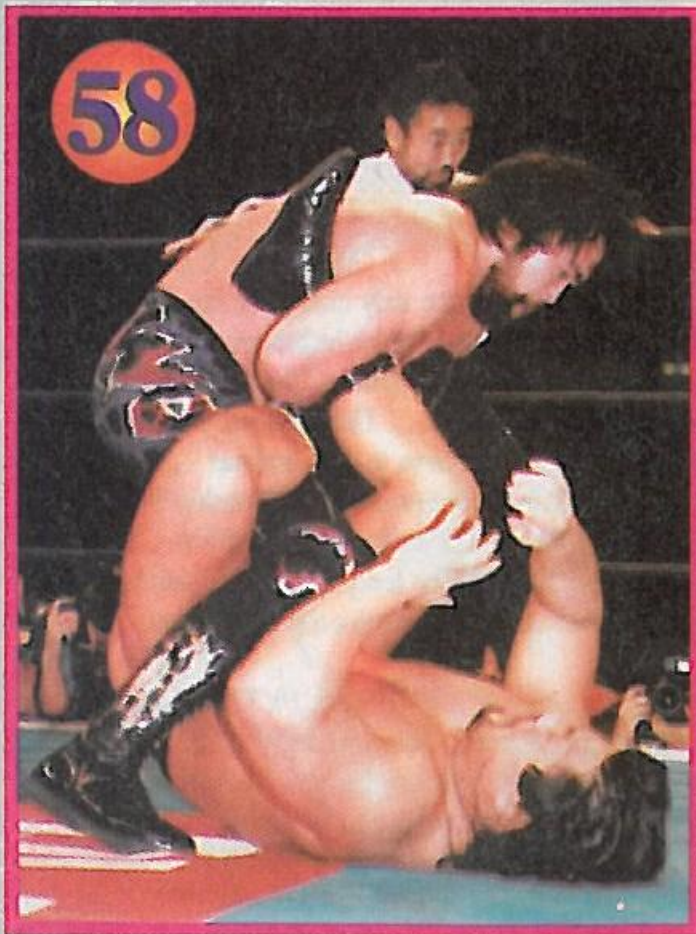
52 SHINYA HASHIMOTO (5'11", 280, 14, 7) Already being dubbed the greatest IWGP heavyweight champion in history for his record-breaking reign that ended earlier when Tatsumi Fujinami upset him on April 4 ... Punishes his opponents with strong kicks to the chest and head ... Favorite finishers include his jumping DDT and brainbuster ... Surprisingly quick martial artist ... Had a classic feud with Nobuhiko Takada.

53 HOLLYWOOD HOGAN (6'8", 275, 19, 55) He and WCW President Eric Bischoff are the leaders of NWO Hollywood ... Has lost a step or two, but still manages to remain in the WCW World title picture ... Occasional movie deals lead to extended periods of inactivity that only hurt his athletic career ... Most recently lost the WCW World title to Bill Goldberg ... Has formed an alliance with NBA bad boy Dennis Rodman, with whom he has twice teamed.

54 MARC MERO (6', 235, 8, 221) Hasn't had the best of luck this year ... Since returning from his torn ACL, lost a boxing match to Butterbean, pinned former valet Sable at Over the Edge, and saw Sable return thanks to Mr. McMahon ... On a good note, he did acquire Jacquelyn as Sable's replacement ... Needs to get Sable out of his system if he plans to go anywhere higher than mid-card ... Another good sign: He started using his "Wild Thing" finisher, which means his knee is fully healed.

55 RIC FLAIR (6'1", 243, 25, 35) A rough year for the 14-time former world champion ... Feuded with Roddy Piper and Bret Hart and ended up on the losing end in both feuds ... Currently in litigation with WCW over an alleged breach of contract on his part ... Has been inactive since the spring ... Rumors abound as to when and where Flair will show up next ... Might only have one last great run left in him.

58



Muto has Kensuke Sasaki in a hopeless predicament

56 BLUE PANTHER (5'5", 205, 20, 191) One of the few wrestlers to have competed in each of Mexico's three major promotions (EMLL, AAA, and Promo Azteca) during 1997 ... Has competed as a *tecnico*, but is currently a *rudo* ... Frequent tag partner of El Hijo del Santo ... Lost to Atlantis in the finals of the Copa Victoria singles tournament last December ... Uses a standing figure-four leglock as a finisher ... Former Mexican National middleweight and CMLL welterweight champion.

57 SCOTT HALL (6'8", 287, 14, 25) The survey says it's been a down year for the "Yo" man ... Currently holds the WCW World tag team title with The Giant ... Is feuding with former best friend Kevin Nash ... Still uses the "Outsider's Edge" as a finisher ... That is, when he's actually in the ring. He disappeared several times this year for weeks at a time ... Needs to remain active for at least three or four consecutive months if he hopes to return to peak form ... Do you think that is possible? Survey says ...

58 KEIJI MUTO (6'1", 245, 14, 37) Spent a portion of 1998 recovering from his dual knee surgery ... Needed that to correct damage brought on by years of executing the moonsault press ... Has brought back his Great Muta persona since joining the NWO ... Muto and Chono won the IWGP tag belts earlier this year, but were forced to vacate them before Muto's sabbatical ... Sets up the figure-four leglock with his trademark "Dragon Screw" legwhip.

59 PERRY SATURN (5'10", 234, 9, 122) Happy to be out of Raven's Flock ... Defeated Disco Inferno to capture the WCW TV title in November ... A former member of The Eliminators with John Kronus ... Uses the "Rings Of Saturn" submission hold and Death Valley driver as finishers ... Now feuding with both Raven and Kanyon ... Made miraculous recovery from major knee surgery in '97, but must still be wary of attacks on this delicate region.

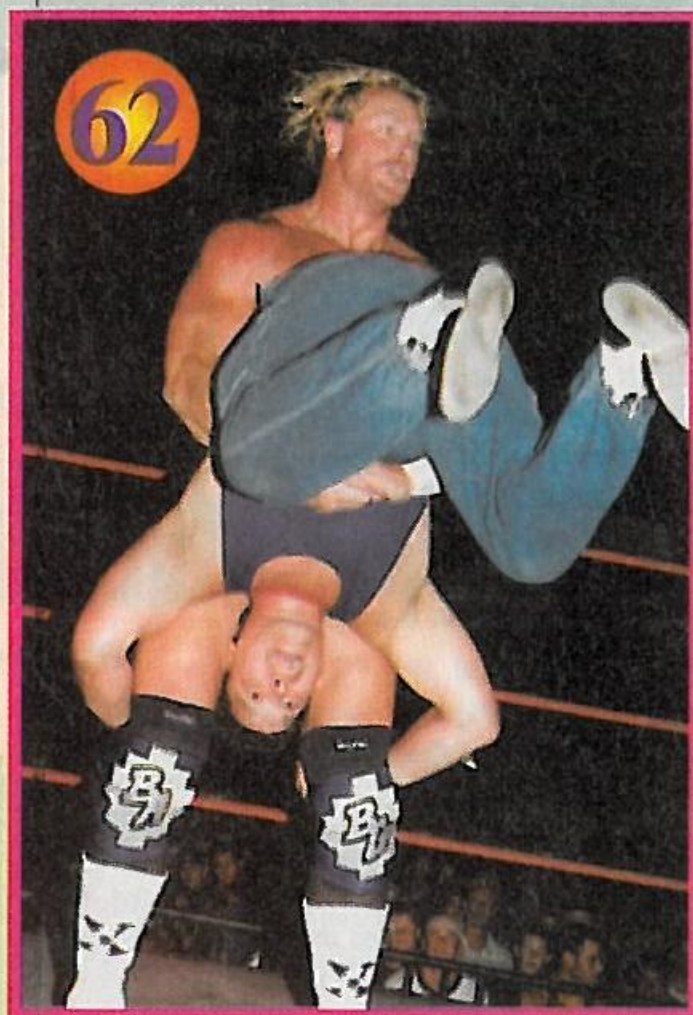
60 TERRY FUNK (6'1", 247, 33, 60) Was talking retirement until he entered the WWF as Cactus Jack's mystery partner Chainsaw Charlie ... Captured the WWF World tag team title with Cactus by defeating The New Age Outlaws at WrestleMania, but the title was held up a day later ... Still loves the hardcore style ... Recently formed a partnership with 2 Cold Scorpio ... Still performs moonsaults at the ripe old age of 54 ... The "Funker" is a former NWA World champion and ECW heavyweight champion.

61 RAVEN (6'1", 235, 11, 39) Has used his troubled childhood as inspiration for his career and his interviews ... The leader of The Flock ... Feuded with Chris Benoit earlier this year, but refused to wrestle him until Benoit went through the

entire Flock ... Finally made an impression in the ring when he defeated "Diamond" Dallas Page for the U.S. belt ... Lost it one night later to Goldberg ... Wrestles every match under "Raven's rules," which basically means there are no rules ... Uses his "Evenflow" DDT as his finisher.

62 BILLY GUNN (6'3", 256, 6, 148) Emerged from mid-card obscurity to become one-half of the ultra-hip New Age Outlaws with "Road Dog" Jesse James ... They've had two WWF World tag team reigns in '98 ... A member of DeGeneration X ... Wrestled briefly under the name "Rockabilly" and was managed by The Honky Tonk Man ... Seems to have found his niche as the cocky, sophomoric "Bad Ass" of DX ... Piledriver is favorite maneuver.

63 HIROYOSHI TENZAN (6', 251, 8, 96) Well on his way to becoming an international superstar at age 27 ... Three-time former IWGP tag team champion with Masa Chono ... Followed Chono into the NWO and has competed for the group in Japan and the U.S ... Agile power wrestler whose favorite moves are the flying headbutt and moonsault ... Has turned heads as he consistently defeats top-ranked opponents.



Gunn raised the caliber of his overall game

64 CHAVO GUERRERO JR. (5'6", 228, 5, 139) Has undergone an amazing transformation this year, thanks to Uncle Eddy ... Began year by trying to uphold the proud Guerrero tradition and ended up a maniacal rulebreaker ... Feuded with Eddy until Chavo succumbed to his evil ways ... Unfortunately, Chavo enjoyed this newfound attitude and is taking his bratty, underhanded persona too far ... Eddy is now trying to rescue him from this evil control ... Lost a hair vs. hair match to Uncle Eddy, but didn't care.

65 VADER (6'5", 450, 13, 46) Vader spent part of the year on the disabled list after being struck in the face with a wrench by Kane ... Returned to challenge Kane again but failed to defeat him ... Has set his sights on The Nation, strongman Mark Henry in particular ... Has recently spoke of his desire to lose more weight, admitting he is out of shape ... Vader needs to do whatever is necessary to regain the form he had when he was WCW World champion.

66 RICK STEINER (5'11", 248, 14, 27) The older of the Steiner brothers finally smartened up this year ... Well, he had to since his brother, Scott, attacked him and joined the NWO ... Lowlight of his year came on April 22, when he seriously injured (and temporarily paralyzed) Buff Bagwell with a flying

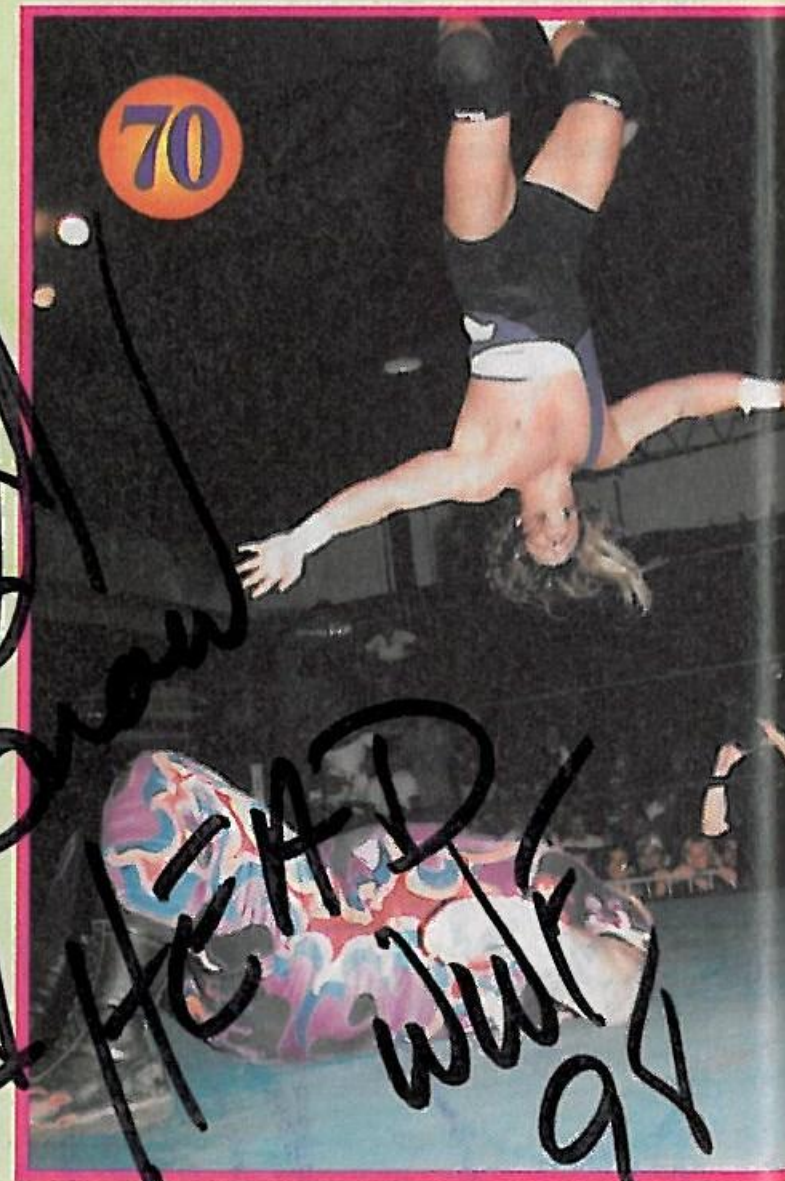
bulldog headlock on Thunder ... Now needs to alter his ring style to adapt to singles competition.

67 EDGE (6'4", 240, 5, 254) This Canadian sensation spends much of his time hanging out in the crowd of WWF shows ... Don't be fooled: He's an accomplished mat technician who can take to the air when needed ... Though in the WWF he shares his name with a brand of shaving gel, he is better known as Sexton Hardcastle, a star of numerous Canadian, Michigan, and Pennsylvania independents ... Sneak-attacked Marc Mero on Sable's behalf on Raw ... His memorable Raw debut saw him injure Jesus Castillo's neck.

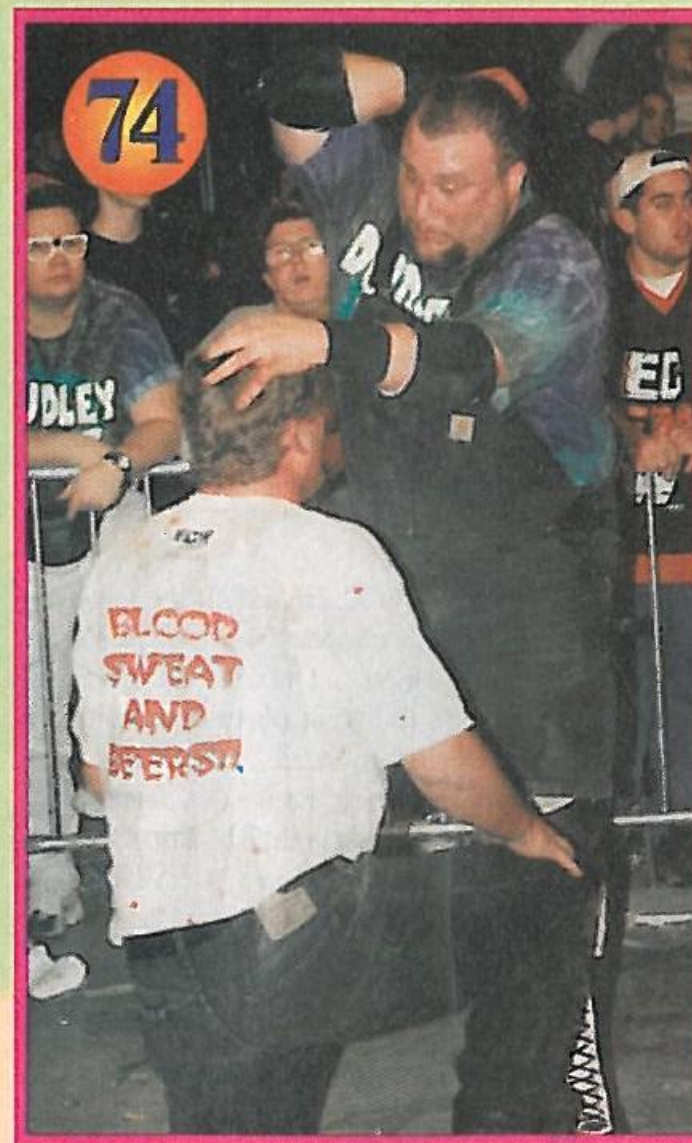
68 SUPER DELFIN (5'9", 191, 9, 180) Became the top draw in Michinoku Pro while The Great Sasuke was out with an injury ... After being seriously injured and humiliated last year at the hands of Dick Togo, took some time off, then returned with a more chiseled physique and added strength ... He and partner Gran Naniwa made their tag debut in All-Japan Pro Wrestling this spring ... Expected to make a big impact in the newly formed All-Japan junior heavyweight division ... Pins opponents with his trademark "Delfin Clutch."

69 THE GREAT SASUKE (5'8", 180, 8, 23) This perennial favorite in Michinoku Pro spent a part of 1998 recuperating from much-needed knee surgery ... In his absence, a masked rulebreaker called Sasuke the Great emerged, mimicking the original ... Had several matches with Taka Michinoku in the WWF late in 1997 ... Known in Japan as the "North Eastern Hero" ... Was the first man to hold the J-Crown ... Dazzles crowds with his graceful Asai moonsault, which he calls the "Quebrada" ... Has been using the "Tiger suplex" as a finisher lately.

70 AL SNOW (6'1", 233, 16, 140) A great year for the former Leif Cassidy ... Went to ECW and, after a slow start, climbed rapidly to the top when he started using his Head ... His manager, Head, that is ... Head is a dismembered mannequin head, but Snow insists she talks to him ... But only he can hear her ... Pinned Shane Douglas in a tag team match at ECW's Living Dangerously PPV, which earned him a heavyweight title match against "The Franchise" at Wrestlepalooza ... Lost that match, but gained the respect of everyone ... Still would like to get a meeting with Vince McMahon and return full-time to the WWF.



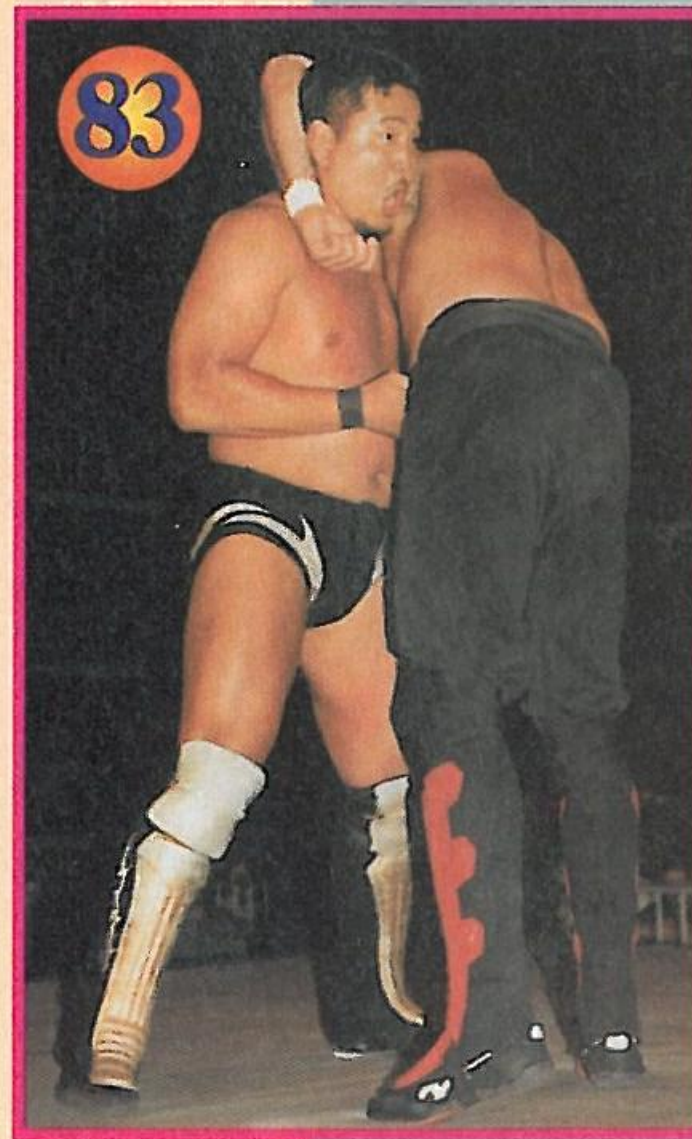
Snow goes head-first against Bigelow



Buh Buh's elbows have a sobering effect

71 EL FELINO (5'7", 190, 16, 70) Current WWA welterweight champ ... Wrestled as a *rudo*, but is now a *tecnico* ... Uses a "Niagara Driver" from the top rope to finish off opponents ... Has been busy feuding with Karloff Lagarde Jr. and El Hijo del Santo ... Competed in New Japan Pro Wrestling's "Best Of The Super Junior" tournament ... Noted for blending scientific skill with blinding quickness ... Former Mexican National welterweight and CMLL welterweight champ.

72 DUSTIN RUNNELS (6'5", 254, 11, 41) Went through several personality and character changes throughout the year ... Ditched wife Marlena for Luna Vachon ... Began wearing women's clothes to torment Sable and Marc Mero ...



Nagata's consistently excellent

Finally got rid of Luna and burned his Goldust outfit on national television ... Returned to the ring weeks later as Credited God for his miraculous turnaround ... Must now remain focused and start winning some matches.

73 JESSE JAMES (6'4", 240, 5, 140) One-half of The New Age Outlaws with Billy Gunn ... Also a member of DeGeneration X ... He and Gunn are two-time former WWF World tag team champs ... "Road Dog" was Jesse's former roadie; he supplied the vocals to "With My Baby Tonight" ... Sophomoric toughness and charm have made him a real crowd-pleaser ... Doing the tag introduction for he and Gunn better and a long career than Michael Buffer ever could ... Son of Bob Armstrong.

74 BUH BUH RAY DUDLEY (6'2", 325, 4, 121) The former stutterer has found his niche as part of the bad boy Dudleys ... Executes the "Dudley death drop" as his finisher ... Is able to withstand a considerable amount of punishment because of his immense size ... He and two of his half-brothers are engaged in heated feud with Tommy Dreamer and The Sandman ... A former ECW tag team champion.

75 JERRY ESTRADA (5'10", 220, 21, 287) Veteran *rudo* jumped from AAA to Promo Azteca last August ... Widely respected in Mexico as one of the best competitors of the past 15 years ... Former Mexican National middleweight, CMLL light heavyweight, and CMLL Trios champ ... Has also competed in EMLL and in WWC in Puerto Rico, where he won the lightweight title ... Feuded with El Dandy and El Torero this year.

76 SHINJIRO OTANI (5'8", 180, 7, 91) New Japan junior heavyweight sensation is among the sport's finest aerialists ... Satisfied a long-term career goal by capturing the J-Crown from El Samurai last year ... Had the misfortune of being J-Crown champion when all of the titles were returned to their home federations, leaving him with only the IWGP junior heavyweight championship ... A master of the springboard dropkick, he routinely invents variations in mid-air ... Long-time partner of Koji Kanemoto also pairs with Tatsuhiro Takaiwa ... Signature move is the Dragon suplex.

77 FAAROOQ (6'2", 291, 12, 45) The former leader of The Nation now has set his sights on destroying it ... Has been involved in a long feud with Rocky Maivia, the man he holds responsible for ousting him from the group ... Needs to secure victories against top-level opponents to be taken seriously as a contender ... Tag team with 2 Cold Scorpio has potential ... Often uses belt to administer whippings to opponents ... Former WCW World champion.

78 LANCE STORM (5'10", 225, 8, 132) A former ECW tag champ with Triple Threat partner Chris Candido ... Feuded with Candido throughout the year ... Was kicked out of The Triple Threat ... Competed in Japan for WAR ... Has grown increasingly arrogant in recent months and has even forced Candido to wrestle some tag team matches on his own.

79 GENICHIRO TENRYU (6'1", 272, 22, 68) Former sumo star and headliner of the WAR promotion has returned to New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Took the NJPW tag ranks by storm with partner Shiro Koshinaka this spring ... They upset Masa Chono and Hiroyoshi Tenzan for the IWGP

tag belts ... Has repeatedly challenged his protege, All-Japan star Toshiaki Kawada ... Was inconsistent last year during his feud with Nobuhiko Takada.

80 CHRISTIAN CAGE (6'1", 225, 3, 268) "The Canadian Rage" has travelled many roads in his relatively short career ... Toronto native has held numerous titles in Canadian and American independents ... A member of the rule-breaking faction Revolution X in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling ... Surprised ECWA heavyweight champ Glen Jarrett's hit song ... Sophomoric toughness and charm have made him a real crowd-pleaser ... Doing the tag introduction for he and Gunn better and a long career than Michael Buffer ever could ... Son of Bob Armstrong.

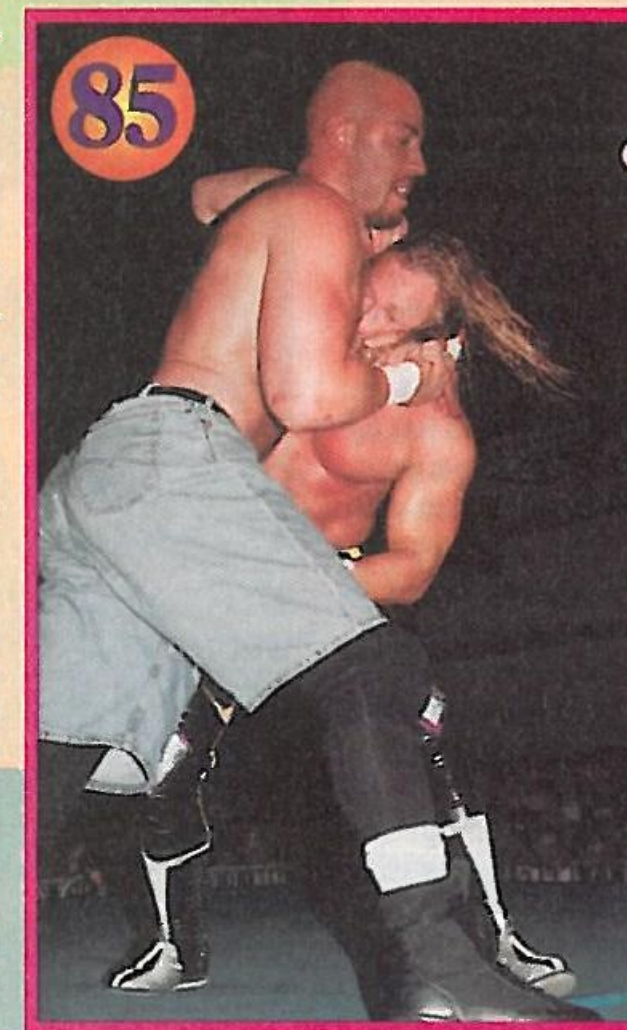
81 OCTAGON (5'7", 190, 9, 171) Considered by many to be the best technical wrestler in Mexico today ... His scientific skill and master of submission holds are his trademarks ... Won this year's *Rey de Reyes* (King of Kings) singles tournament by defeating Perro Aguayo, Latin Lover, and Cibernetico in the four-corner elimination match final ... Uses an unusual submission finisher: a Russian legsweep and stretch combination ... Former AAA tag champ and Mexican National Trios champ ... Befriended former bitter arch-rival Pentagon at *Rey de Reyes* ... Has been a *tecnico* for his entire career.

82 ANIMAL (6'3", 310, 16, 135) A member of LOD 2000 with long-time partner Hawk, with whom he has teamed for most of his career ... Won WWF World tag titles from the Godwins in last October but lost the title to The New Age Outlaws in November ... Had brief split with Hawk before returning as LOD 2000 with Sunny as their manager ... Now feuding with The Disciples of Apocalypse and former manager Paul Ellering ... Ellering claims he's back to end the final chapter of the LOD story.

83 YUJI NAGATA (6'1", 220, 6, 164) WCW mid-carder is among the next generation of heavyweight stars from New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Foreign promoters hope his stay in the U.S. will help him realize his full potential ... Turned in consistently strong performances in the NJPW Young Lions tournaments ... Excellent combination of martial arts skills, submission holds, and mat wrestling has given him an edge wherever he has competed ... Not exactly charismatic, he prefers to let his actions speak for him.

84 PAPI CHULO (5'7 1/2", 170, 1, NL) This young masked star debuted last year at the age of 18 ... Started in EMLL before jumping to Promo Azteca last August, but returned to EMLL in May ... Lost to Taka Michinoku at WrestleMania and has since teamed with Taka on many occasions ... Some in Mexico say he's the next Juventud Guerrera ... Currently teaming with veterans Negro Casas and Ultimo Dragon in Mexico ... Wrestles as a *tecnico* and has feuded with Mosco de la Merced ... A brilliant high-flyer with an incredible arsenal of breathtaking moves.

85 JUSTIN CREDIBLE (6', 225, 6, 160) An incredible year for the former P.J. Walker and Aldo Montoya ... Career took a turn for the better after he entered ECW ... Upset The Great Sasuke twice, solidifying his status ... Injured Mikey Whipwreck and forced him out of action for several months ... Feuded with Tommy Dreamer as well, using the death of Dreamer's grandfather as the butt of his jokes ... "That's Incredible" piledriver has served him well throughout the year ... Managed by Jason and Chastity.



Justin justified his ranking



Hansen's still knockin' heads in Japan

86 BRIAN CHRISTOPHER (5'10", 230, 10, 59) Widely believed to be the son of Jerry Lawler ... Lost in the WWF light heavyweight tournament finals to Taka Michinoku ... Formed a tag team called Too Much with Scott "Too Hot" Taylor ... Too Much defeated Al Snow and The Head at King of the Ring when Christopher pinned Head ... Often kisses and licks his biceps on his way to the ring ... Yuck! ... Tag team with Taylor has shown promise, but can two men with such large egos co-exist? ... Sometimes seems more interested in the way he looks than the way he wrestles.

87 DISCO INFERNO (6', 230, 7, 13) Returned to WCW last year after a brief run on the independent circuit ... Won one of the two masked matches he had with Jacquelyn ... He has such a heavy reputation that it's easy to overlook his extensive technical skills ... It's also easy to forget his two WCW TV title reigns ... Formed an annoying team with Alex Wright ... Eventually, Disco wannabe Tokyo Magnum ... Has had moderate success using his "Chart Buster" finisher.

88 OSAMU NISHIMURA (6'2", 225, 7, NL) Native of Tokyo spent time training in the U.S. and in Europe before returning to New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Not the biggest competitor in NJPW's heavyweight division, but his quickness and endurance have served him well ... Was unsuccessful in his attempts to unseat IWGP heavyweight champion Kensuke Sasaki ... Known in New Japan for his world-class dropkicks, which he fires in rapid succession ... Favorite move is the Northern Lights suplex.

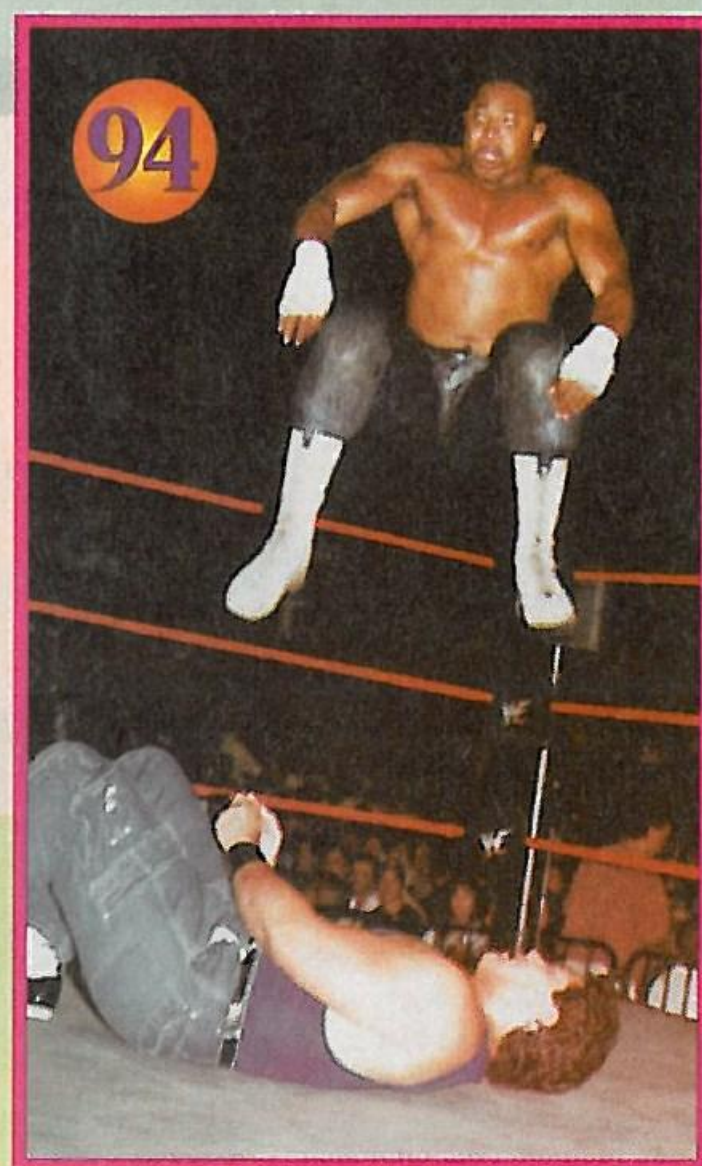
89 STAN HANSEN (6'5", 309, 25, 62) Ageless veteran continues to maul opponents in All-Japan Pro Wrestling ... Had a tough year, though, losing some critical matches to Kenta Kobashi ... Remains a top contender for the Triple Crown ... Struggled in this year's Champions Carnival, but managed to take the much younger Jun Akiyama to the limit ... Arguably the most successful American in Japanese wrestling history, Hansen has won more than 25 titles during his overseas career.

90 SUPER CALO (5'10", 195, 6, 78) This masked wrestler had spent his entire career in AAA before he jumped to Promo Azteca in 1996 ... Named after a popular rap group in Mexico named Calo ... His slingshot senton from the ring to the floor is his most impressive move ... Like most Luchadores, he uses a bevy of aerial moves during his attacks ... Competed as a *tecnico* during his feud with Super Muneco this year.

91 HAWK (6'3", 277, 14, 112) He and his partner Animal are former NWA, WWF, and AWA world tag team champions ... Briefly split with Animal after a falling-out ... Returned several weeks later with Sunny as his manager, using the name LOD 2000 ... Defeated the Godwins to capture the WWF World tag title last fall, but they held the belts for only a month ... Struggling in matches with DOA ... Now going through what the WWF calls "personal problems."

92 SCOTT STEINER (6', 235, 13, 30) Went through a personality metamorphosis ... Feuded with Buff Bagwell over who had bigger arms ... Held WCW World tag title with brother Rick twice in past year ... Then turned against Rick to join the NWO ... Dyed hair blond, began wearing NWO colors, and called himself "Big Poppa Pump" ... Now looks like a young Paul Ellering with really big muscles ... Was reluctant to wrestle Rick ... Seems interested in joining buddy Hollywood Hogan in movies.

93 ATLANTIS (5'6", 185, 15, 85) Beat Blue Panther in finals of Copa Victoria singles tournament in December ... One of the most respected *tecnicos* in Mexico ... Feuded with Steele, Cien Caras, Universo 2000, Mascara Ano 2000, and Dr. Wagner this year ... Finishes off opponents with his "quebrada majistral" ... Lost to Mr. Niebla in the finals in the Salvador Lutteroth G. tournament, a single-elimination tournament dedicated to the memory of the owner of EMLL ... Has held the NWA middleweight, Mexican National tag team, CMLL light heavyweight, CMLL Trios, tag, and Mexican National Trios titles.



Really, Scorpio has no fear of flying

94 2 COLD SCORPIO (5'11", 222, 12, 133) Wrestled as Flash Funk for more than year in the WWF before finally returning to his old name ... Often teams with Faarooq in the WWF ... Wrestled on several ECW, PCW, and ECWA cards this year ... A terrific high-flyer who is vastly underrated ... Still unable to break into the upper echelon of the WWF ... Originator of the 450 splash finisher, a move he still uses.

95 MASATO TANAKA (6', 213, 5, 194) This 25-year-old sensation is starting to make his mark in ECW, although he still considers FMW his home ... Trained by hardcore legend Atsushi Onita, he uses Onita's old finisher, the "Thunder Fire Bomb" as a tribute to his mentor ... Invented a dangerous brainbuster-turned-"Ace Crusher" with which he loves to punish opponents ... Lost a tough 26-minute title match to Hayabusa this year.

96 THE SANDMAN (6'3", 244, 9, 69) Arguably the most popular wrestler in ECW ... Fans love his pre-match ritual of guzzling a beer and smoking a cigarette ... Engaged in a bloody feud with Tommy Dreamer against the Dudley boys ... Battled Sabu in several death-defying "tables

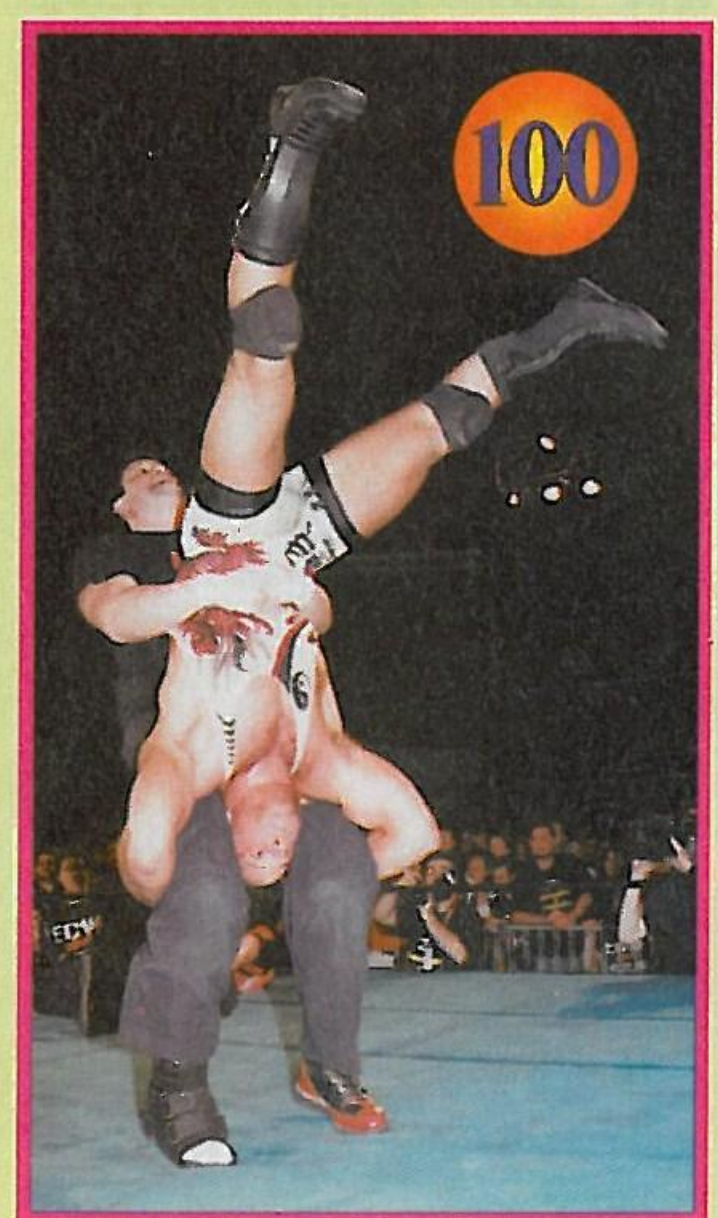
and ladder" matches throughout the year ... Singapore cane is his most lethal weapon ... Not big on exchanging holds ... More often than not, he wrestles with some kind of injury.

97 CURT HENIG (6'3", 235, 18, NL) Returned to the ring last summer after a four-year absence ... Was ranked ninth in the 1993 "PW 500" ... Is a member of NWO Hollywood ... Defeated Steve McMichael for the WCW U.S. title in September, but lost the title to "Diamond" Dallas Page at Starrcade ... All the time he spends on the sidelines with recurring knee injuries must have him rethinking his comeback ... Two-time former WWF Intercontinental champion and AWA champion.

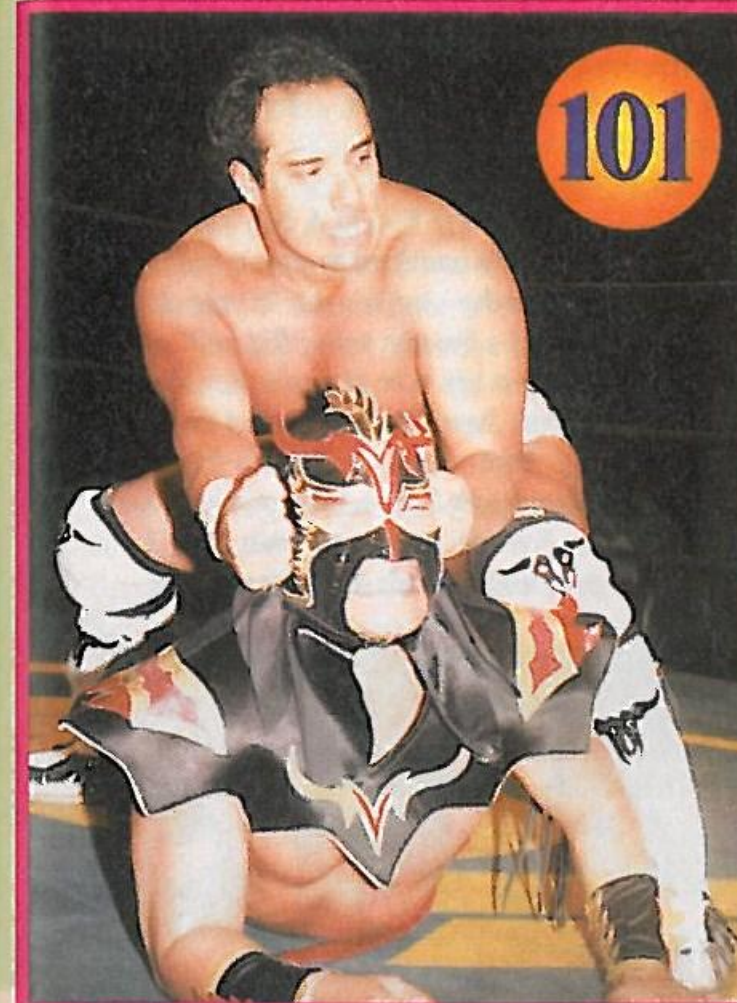
98 DEVON STORM (6'2", 236, 6, 120) The high-flying Storm has regularly competed in both the NWA and ECWA throughout the past year ... One of the top light heavyweights on the independent circuit, Devon competed in the WWF's light heavyweight tournament ... Has formed a successful tag team with Ace Darling, but is also a skilled singles wrestler ... Not afraid to take risks in the ring—hence the nickname "Dangerous" ... Defeated Reckless Youth in the finals of a tournament to determine the new NWA light heavyweight champion ... Recently gave up the title ... Sometimes managed by the beautiful Dawn Marie.

99 KONNAN (5'10", 230, 11, 100) A street thug who talks of his tough life in the barrios of Mexico ... A member of NWO Hollywood ... He has more experience in Mexico than he has in the United States ... Looks considerably different now than he did during his earlier career ... He had a brief stint as a professional wrestler in Japan ... He is leglock his favorite hold ... Former NWA U.S. champion.

100 TOMMY DREAMER (6'3", 245, 9, 48) The "Innovator Of Violence" continues to defend the honor of ECW ... Battled Justin Credible after Credible rudely interrupted a moment of silence for Tommy's deceased grandfather ... Along with partner The Sandman, has battled the Dudleys in numerous bloodbaths ... Uses any weapon he can get his hands on to batter opponents, much to the delight of the hardcore ECW crowds ... No longer with valet Beulah McGillicutty, who has left the sport.



Dreamer knocks some sense into Van Dam's head



Silver King gives Ultimo Dragon an earful

101 SILVER KING (5'11", 221, 13, 90) Promo Azteca star was trained by his dad, the original Dr. Wagner ... Younger brother of current EMLL star Dr. Wagner Jr., with whom he held the CMLL tag title in 1997 ... Began career as a masked wrestler, but lost his mask to El Hijo del Santo in 1987 ... Has held the CMLL heavyweight, UWA light heavyweight, UWA tag, and WWA tag titles ... Currently wrestling as a *rudo*, but was a *tecnico* for years ... Feuded with Lizmark Jr. this year.

102 BRADSHAW (6'7", 309, 6, 173) A big, intimidating wrestler who was a member of the tag team The Blackjacks until Barry Windham turned against him ... Aided Taka Michinoku in his feud with Kaientai ... Reached the finals of the WWF's "Brawl For All" tough man competition ... His clothesline is among the most powerful in the sport.

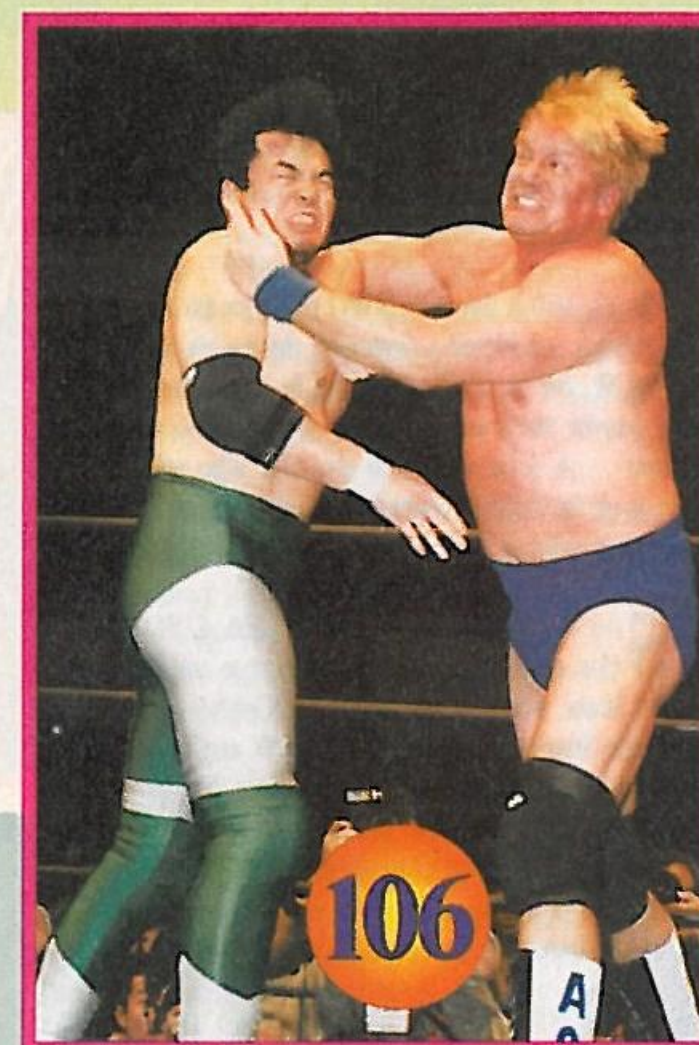
103 SCOTT NORTON (6'3", 360, 9, 63) A member of NWO Hollywood and NWO Japan ... Was part of a formidable tag team called Vicious and Delicious with Buff Bagwell until Bagwell's unfortunate injury ... A huge, intimidating presence who has had tremendous success in Japan ... A two-time former IWGP tag champ ... Defeated Chris Benoit in impressive fashion earlier this year, but has never been a prominent member of the NWO in the States.

104 KENDO KA SHIN (5'9", 195, 6, NL) Newcomer to the junior division in New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Challenged frequent partner Jushin Liger for the IWGP junior heavyweight title this spring, but couldn't beat him ... Immersed in a hot feud with Koji Kanemoto ... Unpredictability hasn't endeared him to NJPW fans ... Has been known to unmask in fits of rage ... Strong martial artist who prefers to wrestle on the mat ... Can apply his dreaded cross-chest armbreaker from virtually any position.

105 VAL VENIS (6'2", 260, 3, 56) This young international star has quickly risen in the WWF ranks ... Was known as Steele in CMLL ... Was forced to unmask in Mexico just before he began competing in the WWF full-time ... His risqué interviews have offended some WWF viewers ... Raunchy mannerisms are reminiscent of those of Rick Rude ... Speaking of Rude, Venis stole Yamaguchi-san's young wife (just as Rude attempted to steal Jake Roberts' wife in the 1980s), but he recently ditched her on Raw ... Top-rope splash finisher is known as the "Money Shot."

106 JOHNNY ACE (6'4", 253, 11, 77) One of All-Japan's most popular athletes is now trying to make his way to the WWF ... Seems to be at his best in tag team and six-man matches ... Sometimes reprises his "G.E.T." team with Kenta Kobashi ... Invented the "Ace Crusher," one of wrestling's most imitated finishing moves ... The "Stone-Cold stunner" and "Diamond cutter" are both very similar ... Also likes to polish off adversaries with his skull-crushing cobra clutch suplex ... Took a couple of big wins in the Champions Carnival, including one over Akira Taue.

107 REY MISTERIO JR. (5'3", 140, 7, 29) Having difficulty recovering from knee surgery ... Traded the WCW cruiserweight title with Eddy Guerrero last fall ... Top-rope huracanrana is still one of the prettiest finishers in wrestling ... Battled Kevin Nash, proving he would wrestle anyone, regardless of size ... Tore his ACL in a match with Chris Jericho ... Actually, it happened after the match, when Jericho smashed the knee with a toolbox ... Recently returned to action and seemingly won the WCW cruiserweight belt from Chris Jericho, but the win was nullified because of a legal loophole.



Ace clubs Mitsuharu Misawa

108 KANYON (6'3", 270, 2, 174) The wrestler formerly known as Mortis ... Took off mask after his attempt to join Raven's Flock proved unsuccessful ... Now feuding with Raven's Flock ... A young wrestler whose best years should be ahead of him ... Used to be managed by James Vandenberg ... Seems much more at ease now that he has shed the mask.

109 STEVE BLACKMAN (6'1", 245, 12, NL) The "Lethal Weapon's" road to stardom has been rockier than those of many other wrestlers ... Started wrestling in Puerto Rico, then travelled to New Japan and Calgary Stampede Wrestling before finally landing in the WWF in 1989 ... Contracted malaria and dysentery while competing in South Africa ... Spent several years trying to mount a comeback, but he couldn't ... Returned to the WWF in November ... Hasn't fared particularly well in feud with Jeff Jarrett ... Occasionally teams with Ken Shamrock ... Trained by Tony Altmore.

110 SAVIO VEGA (5'11", 250, 14, 64) The leader of Los Boricuas ... Has been a mid-carder during most of his WWF career ... For a long time, his clique feuded with The Nation of Domination and Disciples of Apocalypse ... Entered the WWF's "Brawl For All" competition and stunned everybody by defeating the much larger Brakus ... A member of the original NOD ... Competes frequently in his homeland, Puerto Rico.

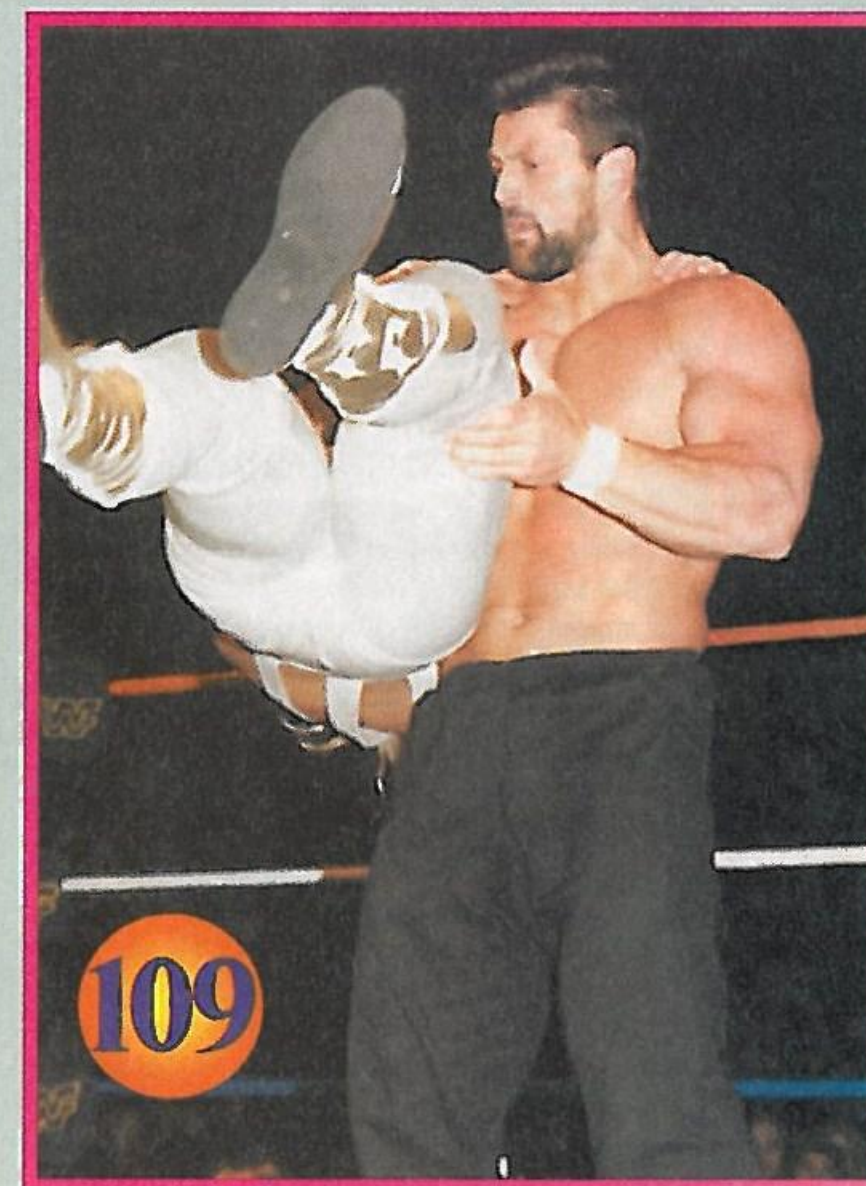
111 D-VON DUDLEY (6'1", 260, 4, 177) Half-brother to all the Dudley boys in ECW ... A two-time former ECW tag team champion with Buh Buh Ray ... Currently feuding with Tommy Dreamer, The Sandman, and half-brother Spike ... Talks about scripture while beating opponents ... A graduate of the ECW House of Hardcore ... He and Buh Buh Ray put Beulah McGillicutty out of wrestling by breaking her neck with a "3-D."

112 VILLANO IV (5'8", 205, 22, 145) Masked *rudo* competitor seen regularly in EMLL and WCW ... One of five wrestling brothers trained by their legendary dad, Rey Mendoza ... Recently left Promo Azteca for EMLL ... Current WWA tag with brother Villano V ... Loves to use the tope suicida when wrestling on his own and the "Doomsday Device" when teaming with Villano V ... Family is probably the most famous wrestling clan of any in Mexico.

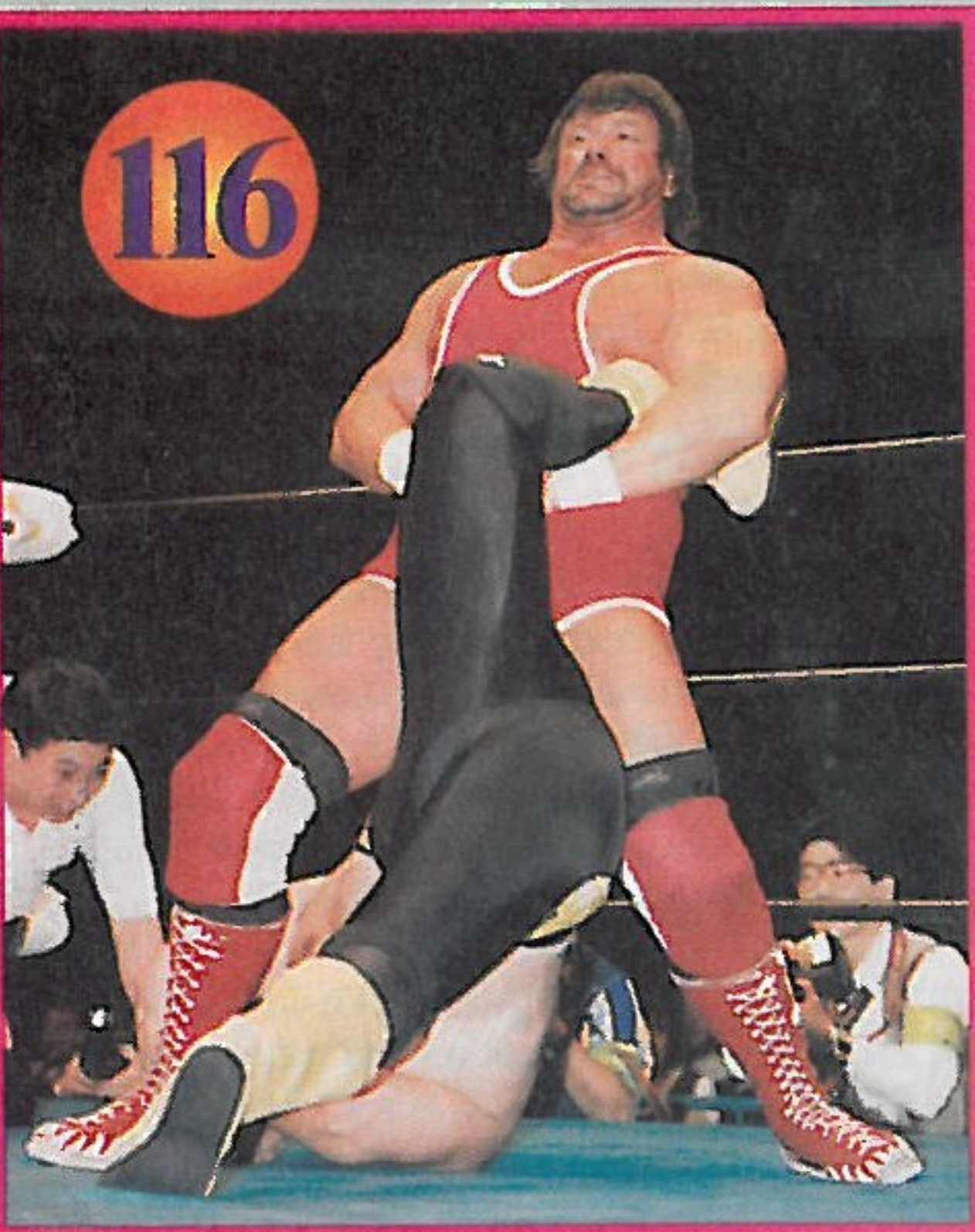
113 EL SAMURAI (5'11", 208, 12, 83) Has re-ignited his career with a new mask, new look and renewed energy ... Briefly reigned as the fourth J-Crown champion before losing to rival Shinjiro Otani ... Won last year's "Best Of The Super Junior" tournament ... Along with partners Kendo Ka Shin and Jushin Liger, is involved in a long-running feud with New Japan rulebreakers Otani, Koji Kanemoto, and Tatsuhiro Takaiwa ... Loads his repertoire with several variations of the reverse DDT ... Prefers to finish opponents with a top-rope reverse DDT.

114 JERRY LYNN (5'7", 185, 10, NL) ECW competitor has spent most of his career in Japan and the independents ... Quietly moving into contention for ECW's singles titles ... Had several phenomenal matches with Justin Credible this year, but lost to him at Heatwave '98 in the final match of their series ... Formerly competed in WCW as the masked Mr. J.L. ... A solid technician with excellent aerial skills.

115 MAUNUKEA MOSSMAN (6'1", 245, 4, NL) This All-Japan competitor has steadily risen through the ranks ... Honolulu native ... Competes mostly in tag team matches ... Seemingly won the PWF junior heavyweight title, but the victory was nullified when officials realized he exceeded the weight limit ... His "Hawaiian Crunch" superplex finisher is devastating ... Former Hawaii state amateur champ.



Blackman's making up for lost time



Did Williams make a good move coming to America?

116 STEVE WILLIAMS (6'2", 271, 15, 57) "Dr. Death" left All-Japan earlier this year for the WWF ... Unfortunately, this noted tough guy was knocked out by Bart Gunn in the "Brawl For All" competition ... Beginning to slow down, but his power remains his greatest asset ... Invented the crushing "Backdrop Driver," which is one of wrestling's most dangerous maneuvers ... Enjoyed early international success as Terry Gordy's partner ... Also invented the "Doctor Bomb," a gut-wrench suplex turned into a seated power bomb ... Still favors the "Oklahoma Stampede" as his signature move.

117 PRINCE IAUKEA (5'11", 219, 2, 119) Second year as a pro wasn't nearly as good as his first ... Won the WCW TV belt in that rookie year and was voted Rookie of the Year by *PWT* readers ... Had several shots at regaining the TV belt in '98, but he couldn't defeat Chris Jericho ... Has very good aerial skills, but lacks a killer instinct.

118 LANCE DIAMOND (6'1", 230, 8, 176) "The Superstar" had quite a year in East Coast independents ... Current NWA 2000 heavyweight champion and ECWA tag team champion ... Was part of the "East Coast Invasion" faction that invaded Michigan's NSWA ... Won NWA "King Of The Independents" and ECWA "Super 8" tournaments ... Has struggled in his few WWF matches ... Feuding with Christian Cage and Reckless Youth in PCW ... Managed by Dawn Marie ... Finishes most opponents with his Northern Lights suplex.

119 BRIAN LEE (6'2", 251, 9, 115) A former member of The Disciples of Apocalypse (as Chainz) ... Once again wrestling as Brian Lee in the independents now ... Accompanied former ECW Commissioner Tod Gordon during his recent invasion of the NWA ... A brawler who likes to mix it up in and out of the ring ... First wrestler managed by Tammy Fytch ... Former Smoky Mountain tag team partner of Chris Candido ... Is a reunion with Fytch and Candido in ECW possible?

120 D-LO BROWN (6'1", 305, 5, 144) This former independent standout stunned everyone but his friends in The Nation by winning the WWF European title from Hunter Hearst Helmsley ... Before that win, he mostly competed in tag team matches in the WWF ... Has worn a chest protector since he suffered a chest injury at the hands of Dan Severn ... Most feel he no longer needs it ... Frog splash finisher is one of the more impressive maneuvers in the WWF ... Began career in Midwest independents and has also wrestled in several Northeast independents.

121 SPIKE DUDLEY (5'7", 155, 3, 277) The runt of the Dudley litter has spent much of the year teaming with Dudley arch-rivals Tommy Dreamer, New Jack, and The Sandman ... Often uses his "Acid Drop" finisher to end his matches ... Just as crazy as his half-brothers, but doesn't let lack of size stop him from executing crazy moves, like diving off a balcony at ECW's Living Dangerously pay-per-view.

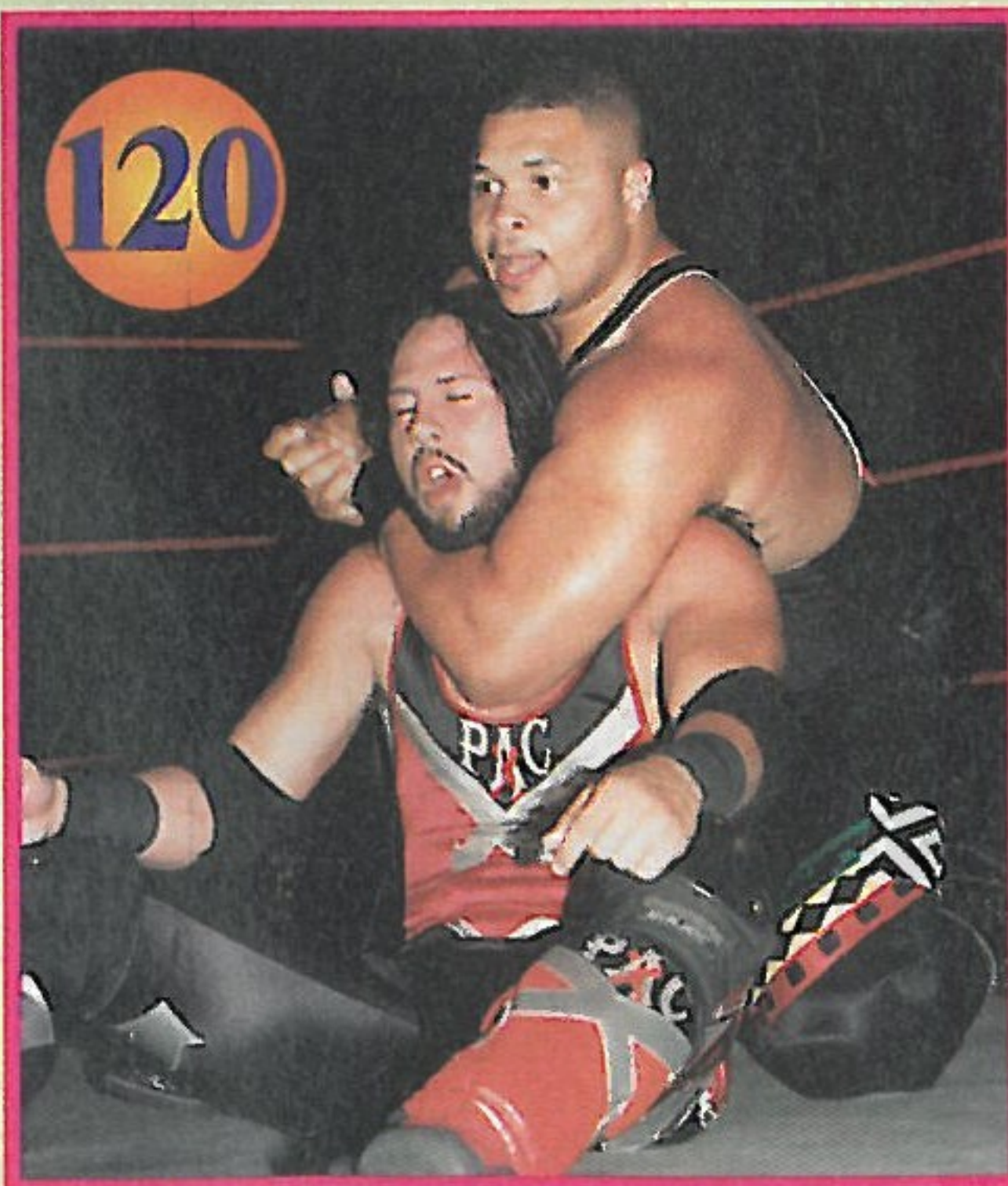
122 FLASH FLANAGAN (6'2", 235, 6, 190) This Southern badboy is now teaming with former enemy Wolfie D in Music City Wrestling ... Travelled north this year to join Judd the Stud's Revolution X group in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling ... Doesn't mind shedding a little blood in a good brawl ... Competed in the WWF light heavyweight title tournament.

123 CHRIS ADAMS (6'1", 228, 20, NL) The "Gentleman" has been quite active in WCW recently, but hasn't risen above mid-card status ... Has lost several steps since his heyday, but is still a formidable opponent to cocky upstarts ... Scored several wins over Dave Finlay this year ... Also competes regularly in the Texas independents ... Superkick is his finisher ... Has held several regional titles throughout his career ... Was ranked 249th in the 1996 "PWT 500."

124 MICHAEL WALL STREET (6'3", 248, 17, 210) A fixture in NWO Japan for the last year ... Wasn't considered a contender during his last stint in WCW, but he is respected and feared in New Japan ... Maybe that's why he spends so much time in the Orient ... A solid technical wrestler who still depends on all the skills he learned as a collegiate star at Syracuse University.

125 MANABU NAKANISHI (6'1", 266, 4, NL) Has wrestled extensively in Europe and in the United States, where he was known as Kurasawa ... While in the States, he competed for WCW and once broke Road Warrior Hawk's arm ... Coming into his own as a singles wrestler after teaming Satoshi Kojima for the longest time ... Hasn't had much luck in efforts to defeat members of the Japanese NWO ... Powerful grappler loves to make opponents submit to his backbreaker.

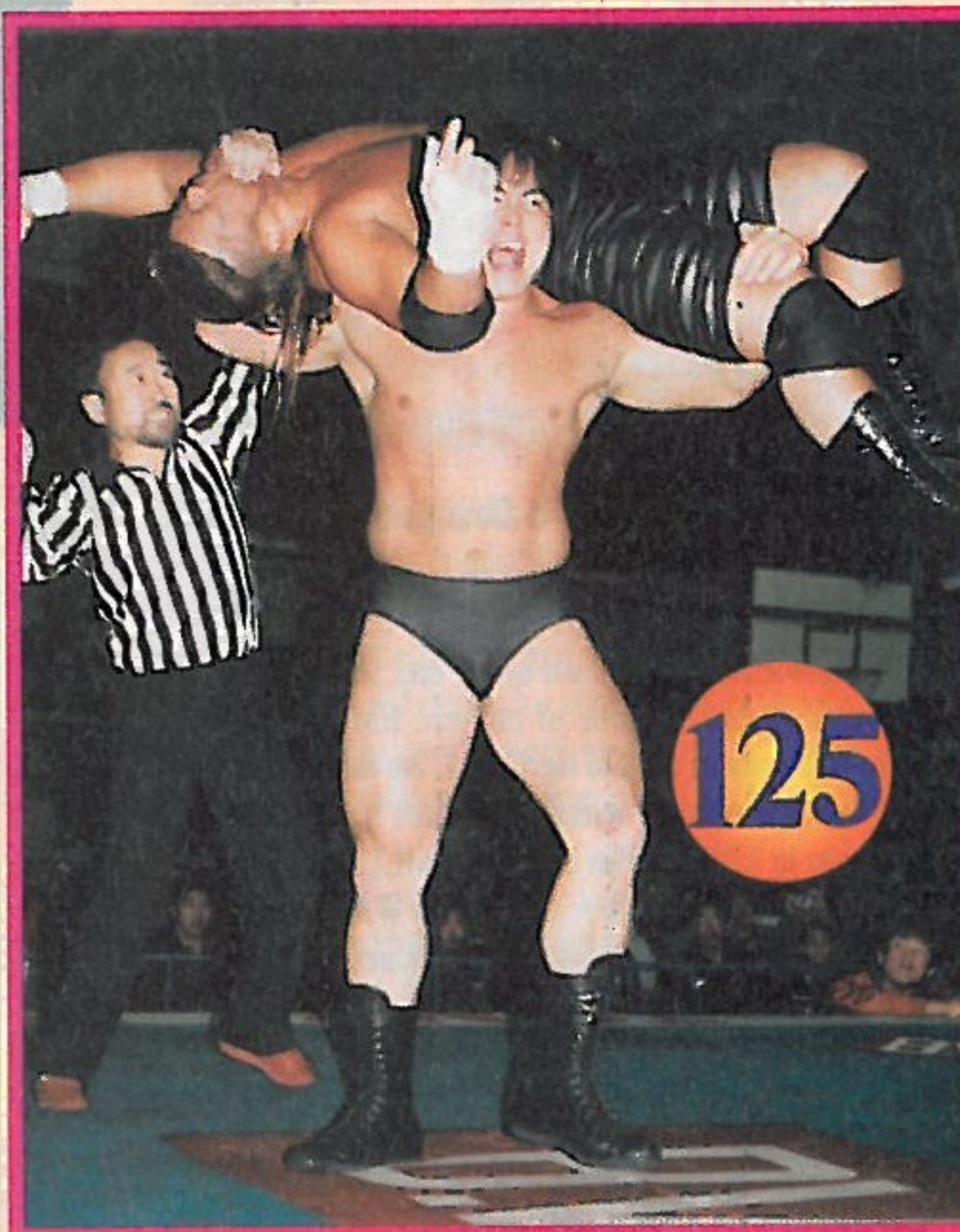
126 HEADBANGER MOSH (6', 243, 7, 104) Held the WWF World tag team title with partner Thrasher ... Has enjoyed success as a tag team wrestler, but not much on his own ... The Headbangers hold victories over the Pit Bulls on



D-Lo Immobilizes X-Pac

several NWA shows ... They were also briefly NWA tag champs before losing belts to The Midnight Express ... Lost to Golga on *Raw* in rare singles appearance ... Very popular with the younger fans.

127 VENUM BLACK (5'8", 170, 6, NL) This Promo Azteca prodigy is considered by some to be the best aerial wrestler in Mexico today—and he's only 23 years old! ... Started in AAA as part of a five-man team called *Los Cadetes de Espacio* ... Some expect him to be as great as Rey Mysterio Jr. someday ... Feud with Super Crazy was one of the hottest in Mexico this year ... Feud with Tarzan Boy is a distant personal second ... Lost a bloody hair vs. mask match to Super Crazy in March ... Formerly known as Venum in AAA ... This *technico* has an incredible tornado dive in his repertoire.



Nakanishi draws a submission from Hiroyoshi Tenzan

128 GLEN OSBOURNE (6'1", 258, 9, 182) This power merchant uses his immense physique to intimidate opponents ... Reconciled with former partner Jon Rock in PCW and is now feuding with Judd the Stud's Revolution X ... Held the ECWA heavyweight title for more than a year, but was recently upset by Christian Cage ... Apologized to The Cheetah Master and the fans for siding with the evil Master in The Master's takeover of the ECWA ... Has since fired The Master.

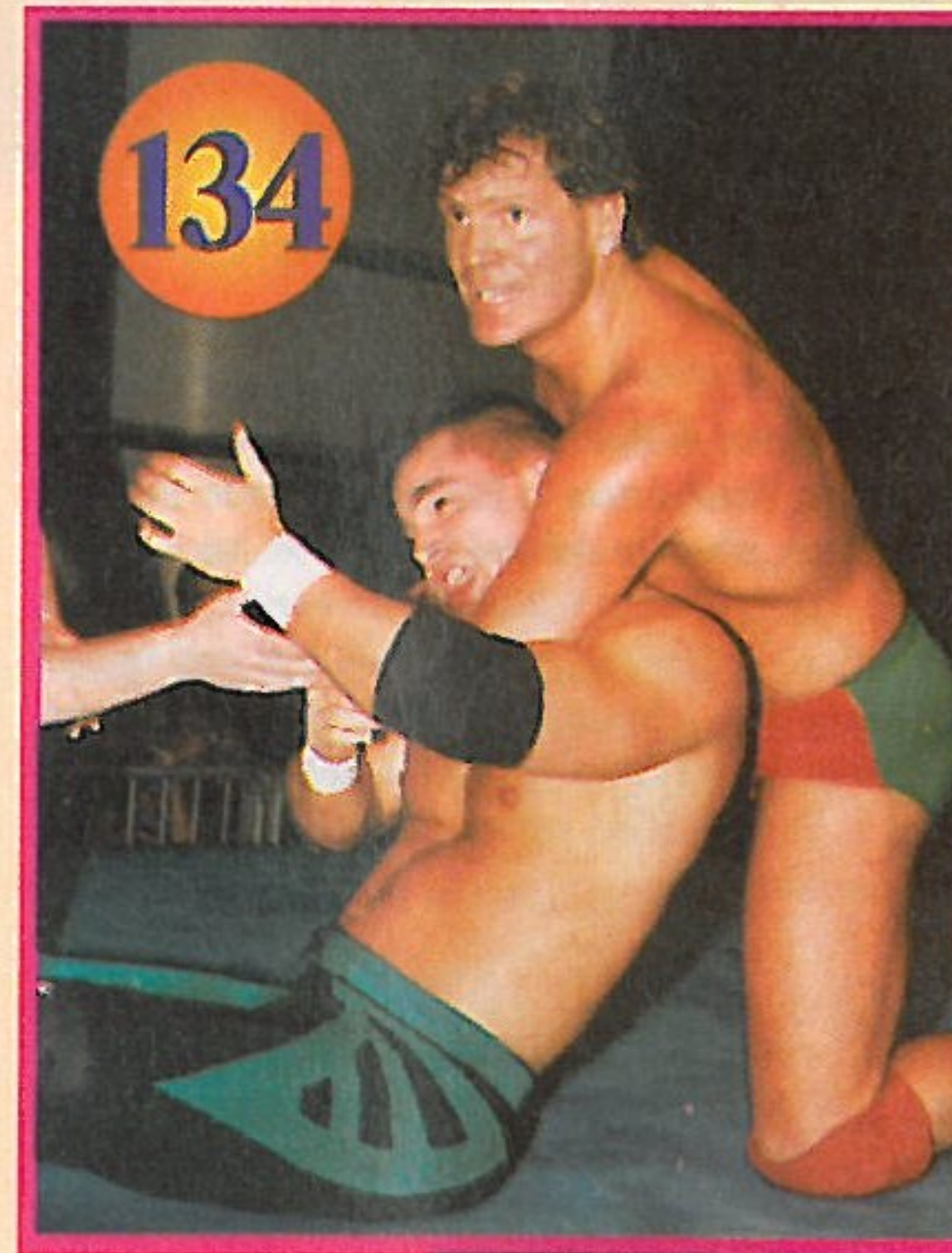
129 EIGHT-BALL (6'5", 257, 14, 258) Identical twin brother of Skull, his Disciples of Apocalypse partner ... Now under the tutelage of Paul Ellering ... Feuding with LOD 2000 ... Ellering claims the DOA will end the LOD's career ... Ellering also claims that he can use a computer program to help the DOA map out the perfect strategy for any opponents ... Whatever moves Ellering tells him to use, Eight-Ball is sure to resort to his brawling ways every chance he gets ... Comes to the ring on a motorcycle.

130 SATOSHI KOJIMA (6', 244, 7, 111) Up-and-coming star in the heavyweight division of New Japan Pro Wrestling ... A former IWGP tag team champion ... A regular partner of Manabu Nakanishi, he has recently teamed with Shinya Hashimoto in repeated attempts to win the tag titles from Masa Chono and Hiroyoshi Tenzan ... Spent time touring in Europe ... Energetic fan favorite has only begun to make his mark in Japan ... Trademark hold is a spinebuster turned into seated power bomb.

131 DICK TOGO (5'9", 222, 7, 172) Top rule-breaker of Michinoku Pro left that promotion to gain revenge against Taka Michinoku in the WWF ... Senior member of Kaientai, which he formed with Men's Teoh and Shoichi Funaki ... Now Taka is part of the group, too ... Remarkably agile for a man so stout ... Trained for a year in Mexico before returning to his native Japan ... Has led a number of ambushes on Val Venis ... Finishing move is a bone-jarring senton from the top rope ... Managed by Yamaguchi-san.

132 BILLY KIDMAN (5'10", 206, 4, 202) This young aerialist arguably has the most potential of anyone in Raven's Flock ... Known for his "Seven-Year Itch" shooting star press, a move he has used from the ring apron onto an opponent on the floor ... Transformed from a clean-cut fan favorite to a dark introvert, but seems to be cleaning up his act now ... Has matched some of the talented Mexican Luchadores and Japanese high-flyers move-for-move in many matches ... Should find more success if he breaks from The Flock.

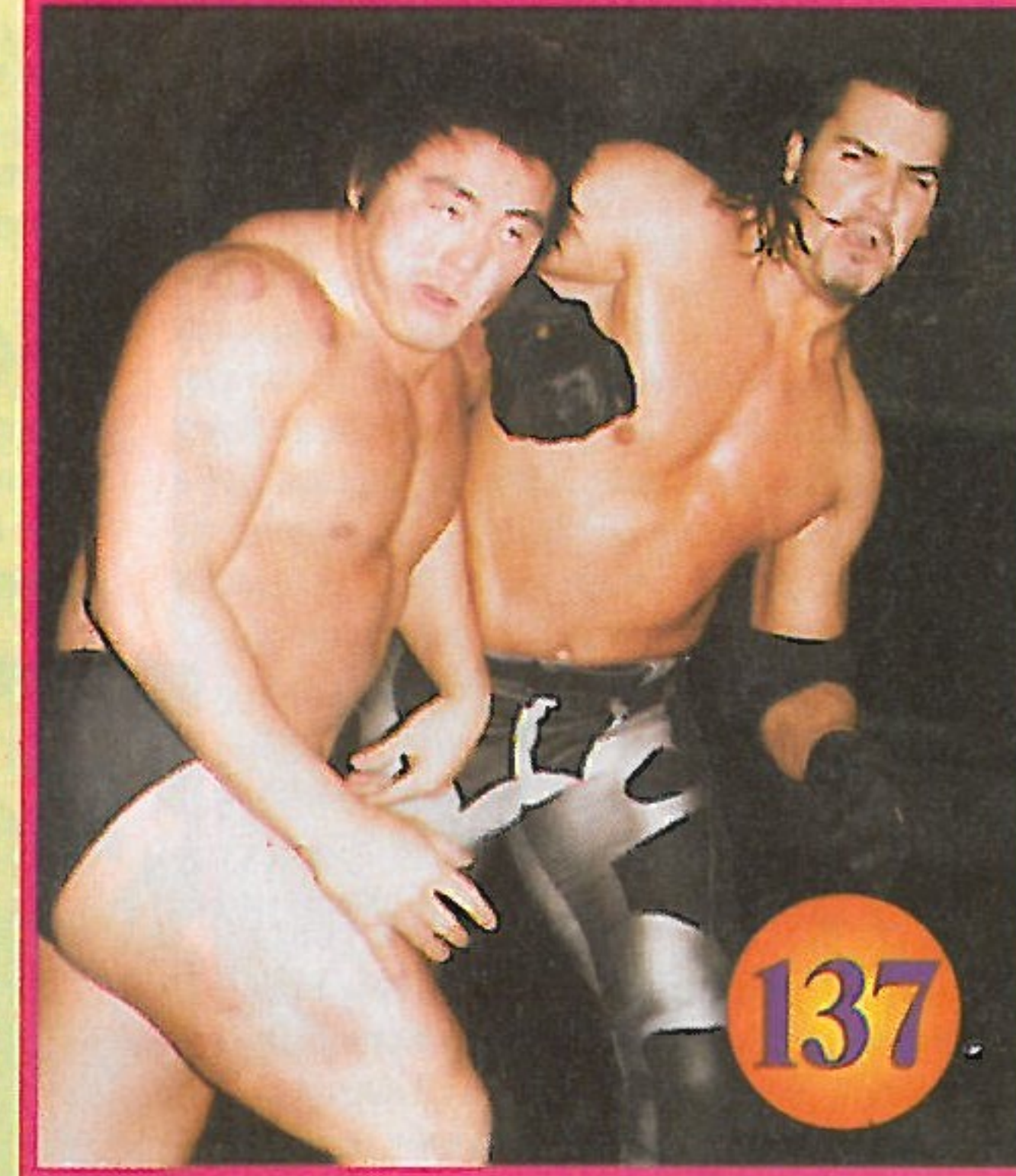
133 X-PAC (6'2", 212, 9, 21) Formerly known as Syxx in WCW and The 1-2-3 Kid in the WWF ... Was fired by WCW while recovering from neck surgery ... Quickly resurfaced in the WWF as member of DeGeneration X with long-time friend Hunter Hearst Helmsley ... Lost first singles match back in WWF to Helmsley when Owen Hart interfered ... Still trying to shake off ring rust.



Smothers: Now there's an Italian name!

134 TRACEY SMOTHERS (6'1", 227, 16, 114) A member of the Full-Blooded Italians in ECW along with Little Guido and Tommy Rich ... Former ECW tag champ with Little Guido ... An accomplished scientific wrestler ... Competed in the WWF under the name Freddie Joe Floyd and also in WCW ... Likes to show off dancing skills before matches ... Claims to be 100 percent Italian, but refuses to submit his genealogy for testing.

135 HEAVY METAL (5'7", 180, 10, 163) This *technico* AAA star frequently teams with Latin Lover ... Ended his feud with veteran Sangre Chicana by defeating him in a cage match at the *Rey de Reyes* show in March ... Also feuded with newcomer Kickboxer. Both feuds have been violent and bloody and involved many cage, chain, and streetfight-rules matches ... Lost to Kickboxer in a cage match at TripleMania 6A show in June. According to a pre-match stipulation, Metal's father, referee Pepe Casas, had to be shaved bald if he lost ... Former Mexican National welterweight, National, and WWA welterweight champ.



Big punches from Big Titan

136 JERRY LAWLER (6', 234, 28, 49) "The King" has spent most of the year behind the announcing table of the WWF ... Recently returned to action in Memphis' Power Pro Wrestling ... Believed to be the father of Brian Christopher, but he won't fess up to it ... No wonder, his supposed kid is cocky and likes to lick his own biceps ... Witty one-liners and colorful comments make him an effective TV personality ... Feuding with promoter Randy Hales in PPW.

137 BIG TITAN (6'6", 272, 7, 273) The former New Razor Ramon spent most of the year in Japan ... Was an honorary member of the NWO Japan, but his request for full membership was denied by the American NWO ... Has wrestled in several independents, including the USWA and WWC in Puerto Rico.

138 TATSUHIITO TAKAIWA (5'10", 224, 5, 219) Thrives in the junior heavyweight division of New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Frequently teams with Koji Kanemoto and Shinjiro Otani to battle rivals Jushin Liger, El Samurai, and Kendo Ka Shin ... Varied arsenal includes a repeating power bomb and his trademark Death Valley driver ... Probably the most powerful of the NJPW juniors, he doesn't emphasize his aerial skills much in matches ... Held his own in the ultra-competitive "Best Of The Super Junior" tournament.

139 AXEL ROTTEN (6'2", 278, 10, 168) Forms a hardcore tag team in ECW with Mahoney ... Wrestled and lost to Chris Candido and Lance Storm at Wrestlepalooza ... Loves to use metal chairs to punish opponents ... Not well-versed in scientific wrestling, but gets by on toughness and size ... Competed briefly in WCW.

140 TIGER MASK IV (5'7", 173, 8, 274) Protege of the famed original Tiger Mask ... The two have teamed off and on over the past year ... Occasional partner of The Great Sasuke ... Has been brutally attacked by an impostor called "The Masked Tiger" ... Was pushed to the limit recently by Mexican legend Dos Caras ... One of Japan's finest counterwrestlers ... Competed in Michinoku Pro's "JYB" tournament ... Impressive high-flyer ... Trademark move is the "Tiger suplex."

141 DAVEY BOY SMITH (5'9", 245, 21, 22) This former member of the Hart Foundation left the WWF with brother-in-law Bret Hart to join WCW ... Formed a tag team with former

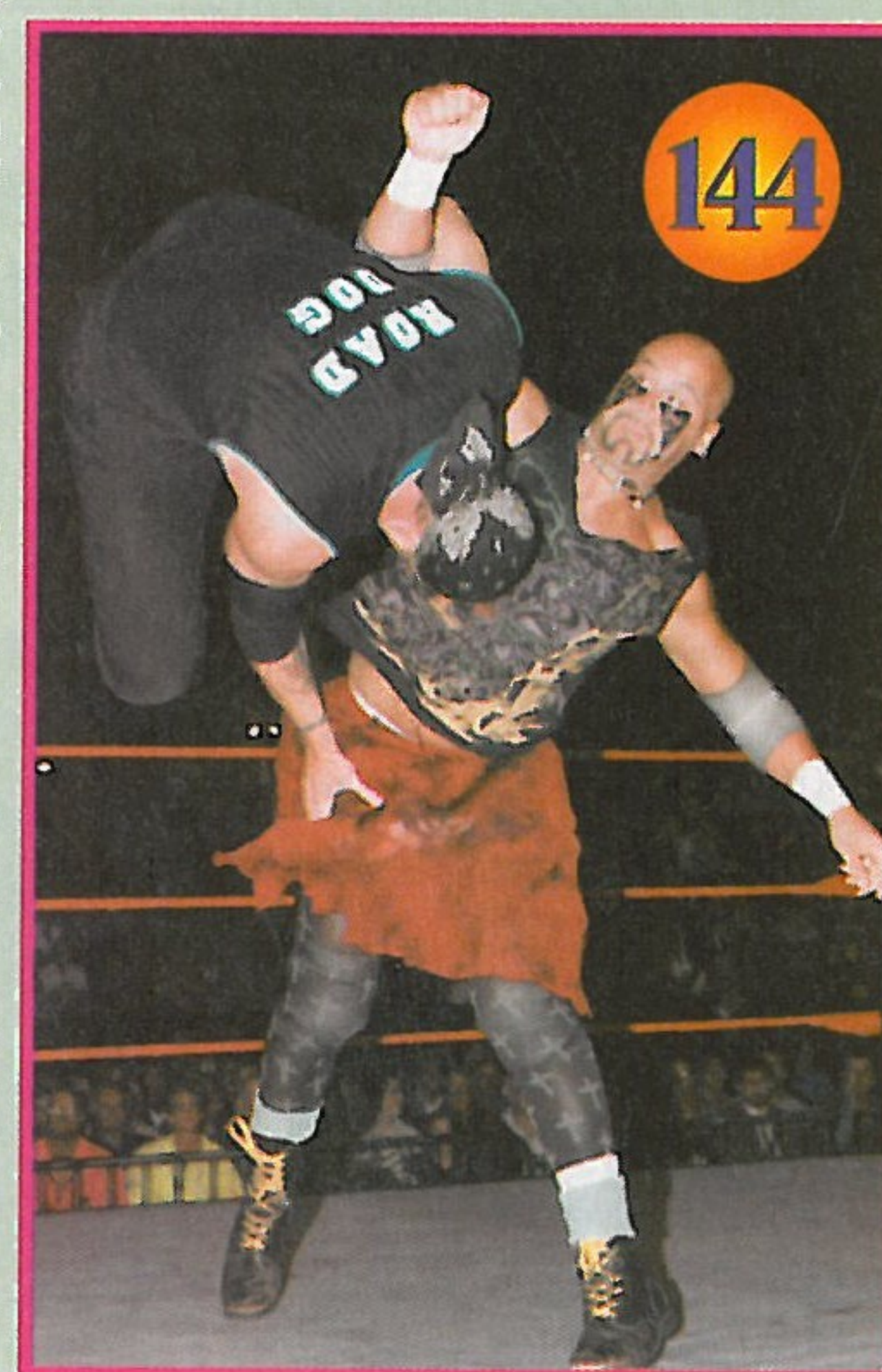
Foundation member Jim Neidhart ... Defeated Steve McMichael several times ... Stock seems to be slipping without Bret's strong leadership ... A powerfully built wrestler who uses the powerslam as his finisher ... Needs to make an impact as a singles wrestler in WCW, but a rash of injuries has held him back.

142 RODDY PIPER (6'2", 247, 24, 54) Holds several victories over arch-rival Hollywood Hogan ... Still claims to be the "acting commissioner" of WCW and often shows up at *Nitro* to make decisions ... With every decision, his ring time gets scaled back ... Has garnered victories over both Ric Flair and Randy Savage ... Is known to appoint himself special guest referee in matches he feels will get out of control ... The fire that made him the "Hot Rod" is still evident even though he is past his prime.

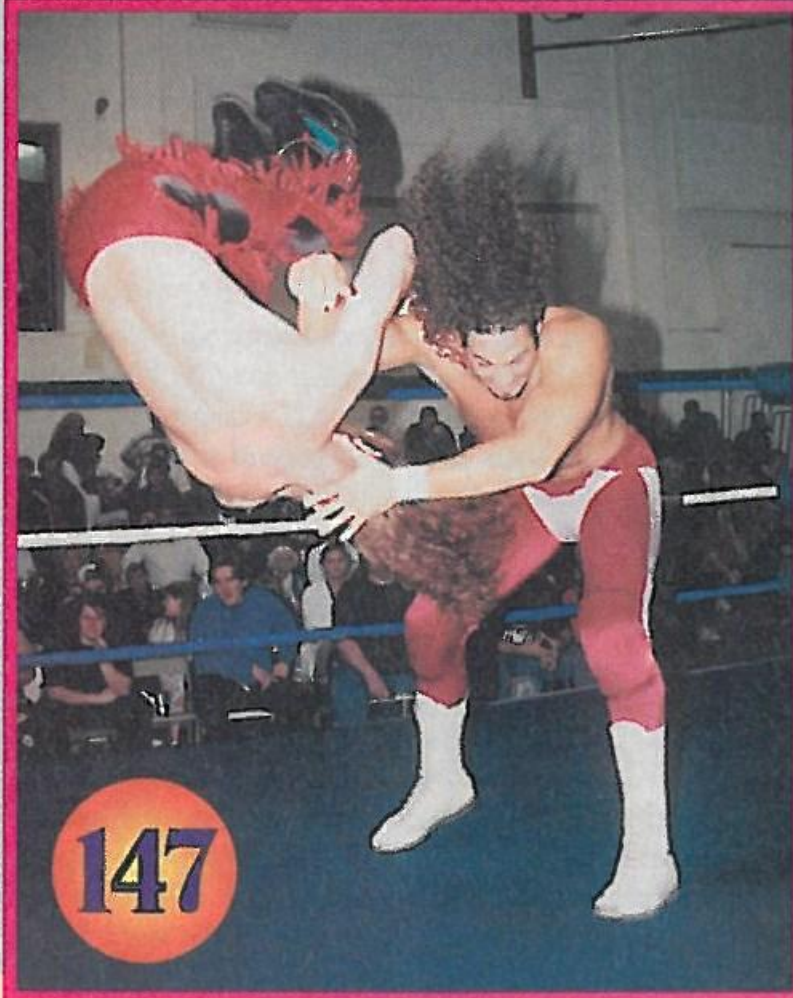
143 SCOTT TAYLOR (6', 203, 9, 161) Forms the tag team "Too Much" with Brian Christopher in the WWF ... Competed in the WWF light heavyweight tournament ... After wrestling as a fan favorite for years, he cut his hair and began calling himself "Too Hot" ... Remarkably patient, as he has been with the WWF on and off since 1990 and is only recently getting anywhere ... Competed in this year's ECWA Super 8 tournament, losing in the semifinals to Lance Diamond.

144 HEADBANGER THRASHER (6'2", 245, 7, 110) He and partner Mosh are former WWF World and NWA tag team champions ... A tag team specialist who rarely wrestles in singles matches ... When he does wrestle in singles, he almost always ends up on the mat for the three-count ... Wrestles while wearing a skirt ... Now frequently wrestling on independent shows ... The larger of the Headbangers, in case you can't tell them apart.

145 SKULL (6'5", 257, 14, 258) The other half of The Disciples of Apocalypse ... Since he is the identical twin of Eight-Ball, we really can't tell if we're writing about the right guy ... Regardless of this, DOA is managed by former LOD manager Paul Ellering ... Ellering is trying to help them push Animal and Hawk out of wrestling ... Can Ellering tell them apart? We hope so.



Tag team specialist Thrasher



Sanchez is becoming a martial artist

146 JINSEI SHINZAKI (5'11", 213, 5, 199) Former WWF star used to be known as Hakushi stateside ... Involved in some classic tag team matches this year with partner Hayabusa; the duo has fought together in Michinoku Pro, All-Japan, FMW, and now ECW ... Not afraid to dispense with wrestling and engage in brawls ... Signature move is the praying power bomb.

147 JULIO SANCHEZ (6'2", 235, 5, 206) The current IPWA light heavyweight and PCW heavyweight champ ... Has also wrestled for Steel City Wrestling, IPW, and Championship Wrestling America ... Is both a capable high-flyer and very good technical wrestler ... Has also wrestled for the WWF and WCW ... Well-liked by fans in most promotions, but evil manager Doc Hollywood recently signed him to a contract to take out Shane Shadows ... Has many spinning kicks and martial arts kicks in his repertoire.

148 MIGUEL PEREZ JR. (6'1", 232, 21, 169) A member of Los Boricuas in the WWF ... Has been in a slump as both a tag team and singles competitor ... Veteran star has competed in Mexico, Japan, and his native Puerto Rico ... Tried to avenge partner Jesus Castillo's injury by going after Edge in several WWF matches.

149 WOLFIE D (6'1", 215, 7, 118) A former Music City Wrestling heavyweight champion ... Experienced success as a singles wrestler while feuding with Flash Flanagan and Mabel, just to name a few ... Recently reunited with J.C. Ice to re-form PG-13 ... Also buried the hatchet with Flanagan, forming the team of Black Sheep in MCW ... A former USWA tag team champion with Ice.

150 BARRY WINDHAM (6'5", 273, 18, 147) Turned against former Blackjack partner Bradshaw this year ... Lost to Jeff Jarrett in a match for NWA North American title ... Aligned himself with Jim Cornette under NWA banner in WWF ... Recently disappeared from the WWF along with the NWA faction ... Resurfaced on several NWA shows ... A former member of The Four Horsemen in the old NWA.

151 NWO STING (6', 251, 5, NL) Was first used by the NWO to taunt the fans and the then-silent original Sting ... Soon began to show promise while wrestling in Japan ... Big, lumbering guy, whose

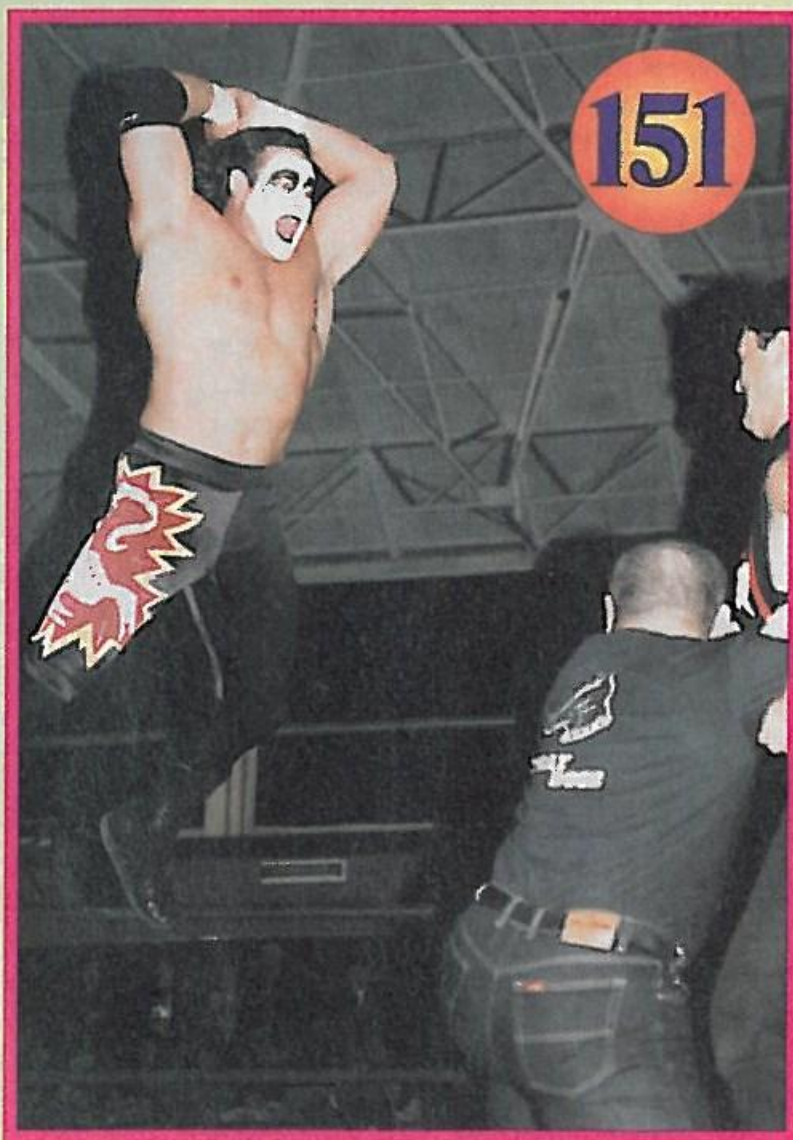
only real resemblance to the original Sting is his long, dark hair and face paint (provided the original is wearing the black and white paint).

152 BART GUNN (6'4", 256, 6, 129) Was sidelined for a while due to injury, but made a stunning return to the spotlight by kayoing perennial tough guy "Dr. Death" Steve Williams during a "Brawl For All" match ... That one left hook gave a much-needed boost to Gunn's career ... Had previously returned to the WWF as member of The New Midnight Express with Bob Holly ... They were managed by Jim Cornette and won the NWA tag title ... Brother of "Bad Ass" Billy Gunn ... Lost to Billy several times this year ... Found success as singles wrestler on the independent circuit.

153 HIROSHI HASE (5'11", 226, 13, NL) Former singles superstar in New Japan Pro Wrestling now splits his time between the Japanese Senate and All-Japan Pro Wrestling ... Although he only competes occasionally, he wrestled for a full hour in a six-man match that also involved Mitsuharu Misawa, Toshiaki Kawada, Jun Akiyama, Kenta Kobashi, and Akira Taue and tested his endurance ... Great scientific grappler whose "Golden Arm Bomber" and Northern Lights suplex are his trademark moves.

154 NEW JACK (6', 225, 6, 101) A brawler in every sense of the word ... Always brings a garbage can filled with weapons to the ring with him ... Knows few if any scientific wrestling holds ... A former ECW tag team champion with former Gangsta partner Mustafa Saed and John Kronus ... Currently feuding with Jack Victory in ECW ... Wherever he goes, controversy is sure to follow ... Seems to have more success as a tag team wrestler.

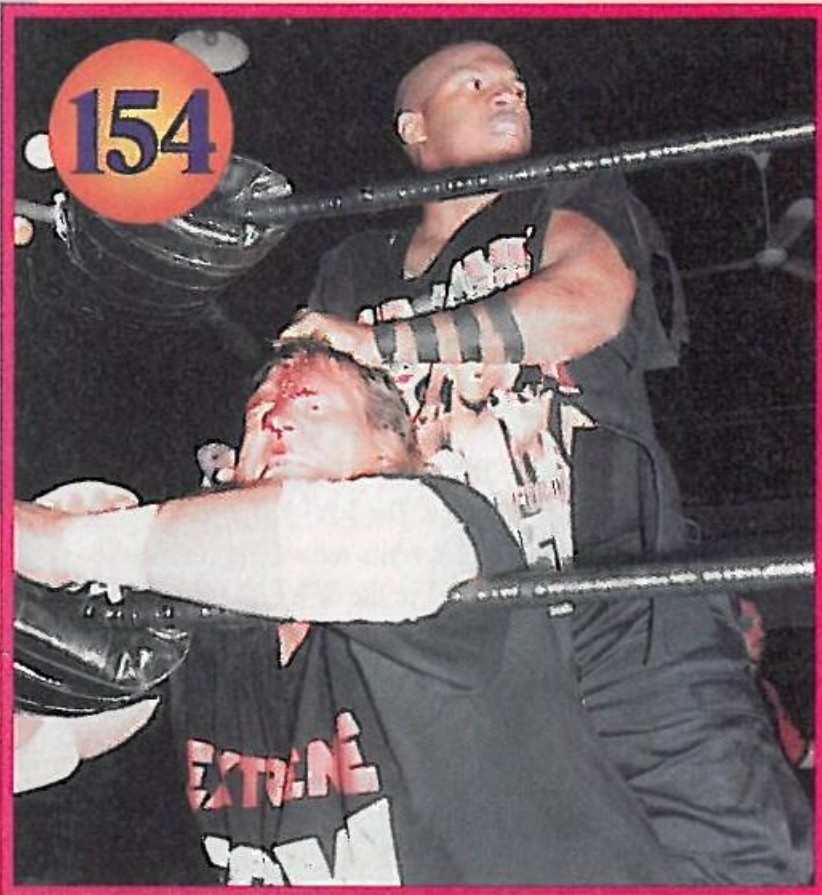
155 YOSHIHIRO TAJIRI (5'7", 176, 4, 280) Top junior heavyweight in Big Japan Pro Wrestling has left for action in Mexico, where he competes as the masked Aquarius ... Turned a lot of heads in Japan with his two classic matches with Shinjiro Otani last year ... Made a few brief appearances in the WWF light heavyweight division ... Though



NWO Sting has established his own credentials

he isn't very big, he possesses some powerful kicks ... An expert in submission wrestling and a good high-flyer ... Trademark move is a seated power bomb that he turns into a windmill sunset flip.

156 ACE DARLING (6', 225, 6, 125) One of the better all-around wrestlers on the East Coast indy scene ... Has wrestled in the CWA, ECWA, and NWA recently ... Has held numerous regional titles ... Has also competed in both WCW and the WWF in singles and with partner Devon Storm ... Somewhat slowed by injuries this year.



New Jack punishes Jack Victory

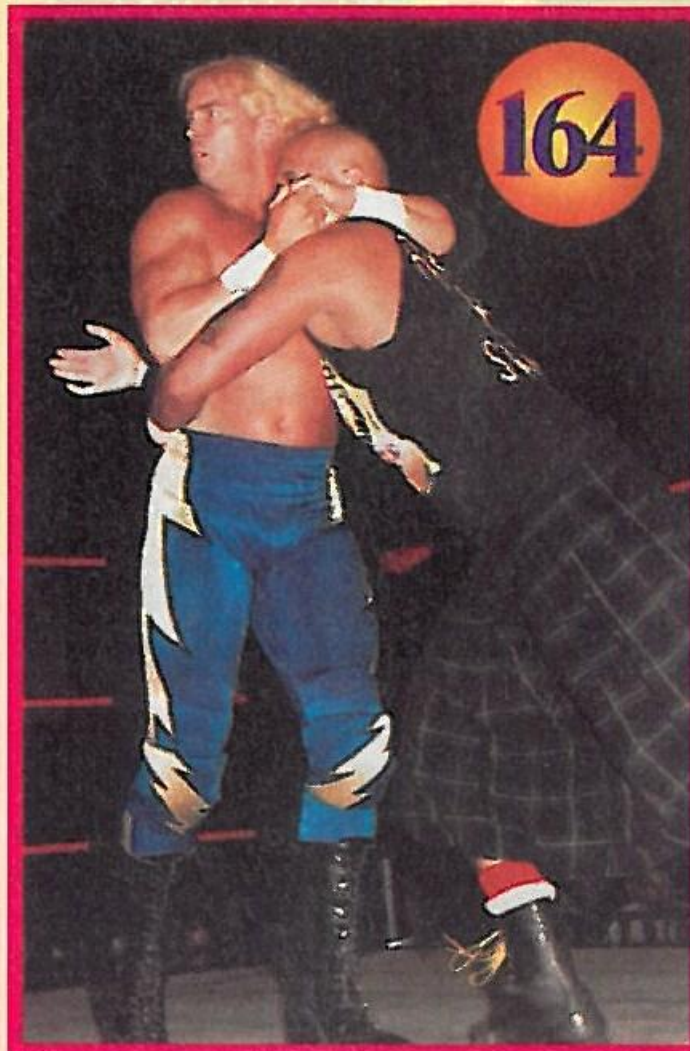
157 SUPER CRAZZY (5'6", 180, 10, NL) Formerly known as Histeria in AAA, he changed his name upon entering Promo Azteca ... Embroiled in a bitter feud with Venum Black, whom he defeated in a hair vs. hair match in March ... Competed in the WWF light heavyweight tournament as Super Loco ... Combines brawling skills with some brilliant aerial maneuvers ... Favors several high-risk maneuvers and uses a power bomb followed by a "Michinoku Driver II" as his finisher ... Currently UWA welterweight champ ... Wrestled as a *rudo* his entire career.

158 ERNEST MILLER (6'2", 235, 2, NL) This karate expert hasn't made too much noise this year ... One of many WCW mid-carders ... Still honing his skills at the Power Plant, WCW's training facility ... Hasn't been feuding with anyone since his war with Mortis and Wrath ended ... Has won numerous karate and bodybuilding titles ... Needs to add a few more wrestling moves so he won't have to depend so much on his martial arts skills.

159 MENS TEOH (5'8", 196, 7, 222) Left Michinoku Pro this year along with Kaientai teammates Dick Togo and Shoichi Funaki for competition in the WWF ... Wrestled as Terry Boy early in his career, paying tribute to his hero, Terry Funk ... Hard-hitting athlete is easily spotted by his bright orange hair ... Was involved in numerous sneak-attacks on former partner Taka Michinoku and is now feuding with Val Venis ... Best move is his "Miracle Ecstasy," a choke-slam he turns into a power bomb.

160 KAZ HAYASHI (5'8", 170, 6, 226) This former member of Kaientai in Michinoku Pro made his WCW debut this year ... Previously known as the masked Shiryu, he revealed his identity to the wrestling world by unmasking at this year's "Best Of The Super Junior" tournament ... Has had some excellent matches with Ultimo Dragon both in the U.S. and in Mexico ... Stunningly agile, he regularly executes some of the most acrobatic suicide dive variations in the sport.

161 MR. NIEBLA (5'9", 175, 6, NL) This masked *tecnico* wrestler is a relative newcomer to EMLL ... Currently holds the CMLL tag team title with Shocker ... Recent leg surgery forced him to miss a month of action ... Like most Luchadores, he has a number of good aerial moves, including the tope suicidal over the corner ringpost, tope con hilo, and the somersault plancha ... Despite this proficiency, his favorite finisher, "The Nieblina," is a standing figure-four variation ... Feuded with Black Warrior, Universo 2000, and Mascara Ano 2000 this year.



Holly's concentrating more on the ring than the track

162 MAHONEY (6'2", 321, 6, 213) Frequent partner of Axl Rotten ... Master of the chair shot ... He and Rotten have long been contenders for the ECW tag team belts, but have yet to win them ... Currently feuding with The Full-Blooded Italians ... Has become very popular with ECW fans ... Although he's capable of executing some aerial moves, he now spends most of his time brawling.

163 HUGH MORRIS (5'10", 330, 8, 155) "The Laughing Man" still competes in WCW ... Hasn't been very successful since the dissolution of The Dungeon of Doom ... Moonsault is still a devastating finisher ... Highlight of career was wrestling Hulk Hogan on *Nitro* telecast ... Superior agility for a man of his size ... Managed by Jimmy Hart.

164 BOB HOLLY (6'1", 231, 5, 134) Dyed his hair blond upon returning to the WWF as one-half of The New Midnight Express, under the management of Jim Cornette ... Held the NWA tag straps with Gunn ... Seems to have found more success since he cut back on his car racing ... Throws a very crisp dropkick ... A former WWF tag champ with the 1-2-3 Kid (X-Pac).

165 JIM NEIDHART (6'1", 275, 19, 159) Currently wrestling in WCW with long-time partner Davey Boy Smith ... Left the WWF with brother-in-law Bret and the rest of The Hart Foundation (sans Owen) ... Has achieved the least of all the Foundation defectors ... Skills have diminished considerably since his days as a WWF World tag team champion ... Basically an afterthought in WCW.

166 GARY ALBRIGHT (6'4", 332, 11, 75) Massive grappler honed his skills in the now-defunct UWFI, but now competes primarily for All-Japan Pro Wrestling ...

Possesses some of wrestling's most dangerous suplexes, including his "Rolling Dragon" suplex ... Hasn't received many title shots lately ... Stamina has decreased over the years ... Extremely gifted submission wrestler mixes a variety of power moves into his arsenal ... Didn't fare well in the annual Champions Carnival.

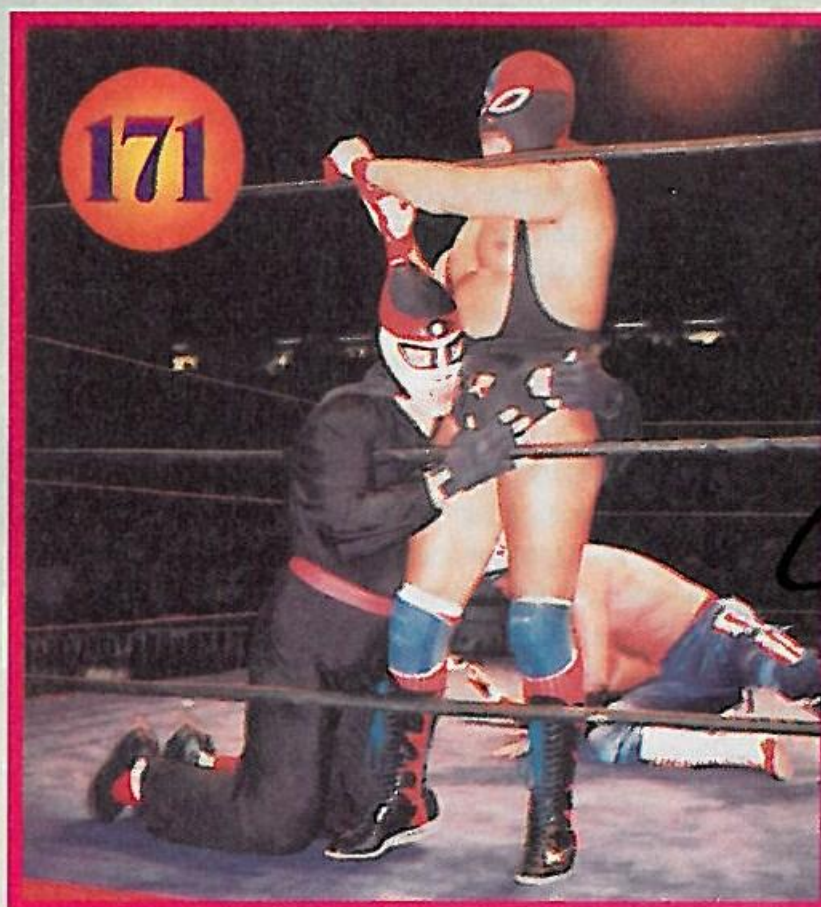
167 JOHN KRONUS (6'4", 256, 9, 73) A former ECW tag team champion with Eliminator partner Perry Saturn and with New Jack ... Was forced to make some changes when Saturn left for WCW ... At first seemed lost, but found his niche by forming a team with New Jack ... An incredible athlete who performs full flips from the top rope as well as cartwheels and planchas ... Tends to be a little goofy during interviews ... Now seems more interested in focusing on his singles career.

168 HECTOR GARZA (5'10", 205, 6, 94) This Promo Azteca star has been out of action since January with a knee injury ... Relies upon his high-flying skills ... Inventor of the corkscrew plancha ... Frequently competes in WCW's cruiser-weight division, but hasn't made much of an impact there.

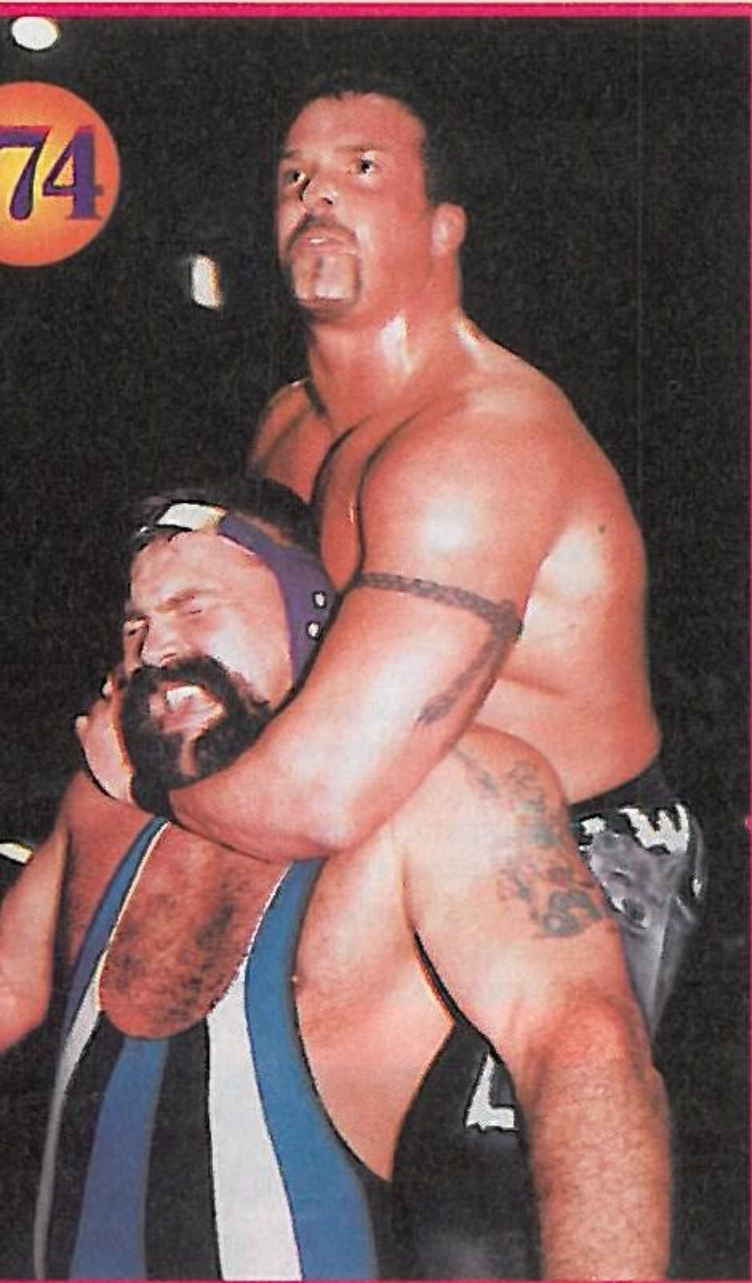
169 DOUG FURNAS (5'11", 243, 12, 138) Former powerlifter has been relatively quiet the past year ... Appeared at ECW's Living Dangerously, but lost to Masato Tanaka ... Has had most of his success in tag teams, but an injury to his regular partner, Phil Lafon, forced him into singles competition ... Is managed by Lance Wright in ECW ... Extremely powerful.

170 ALEX WRIGHT (6'3", 220, 3, 127) Was out for several months with a head injury ... Formed a truly annoying team with Disco Inferno ... Insists on entering the ring on his own and to his own music, even before tag team matches ... Doesn't like their dancing mascot, Tokyo Magnum, and that has caused problems between he and Disco ... Not in contention for any titles, except for that of "Dancing King."

171 FUERZA GUERRERA (5'5", 175, 20, 192) This masked wrestler is a AAA mainstay ... Name translates to Power Warrior in English ... Besides training his son, Juventud Guerrera, he also trained AAA newcomers Furia and Alma Guerrera ... Held the Mexican National tag belts with Mosco II this year and is a former Mexican National light-weight, NWA welterweight, Mexican National welterweight,



Guerrera uses Octagon's attire to his advantage



Bagwell is still on the mend

and Mexican National tag champion ... Known for his tilt-a-whirl backbreaker as well as the low blows he delivers to his opponents when referees aren't looking (it's cause for an automatic DQ in Mexico).

172 SHOKCHI FUNAKI (5'8", 192, 8, NL) Loyal member of Dick Togo's Kaientai group left Michinoku Pro for the WWF this year ... For months, he was intent on exacting revenge on his former tag partner Taka Michinoku; the two were collectively known as the "Dream Chasers" in Japan ... Well-rounded athlete has wrestled for New Japan and BattleArts as well ... Is at his best in tag team matches ... Favorite maneuver is the Fisherman buster.

173 VAN HAMMER (6'8", 320, 8, NL) Emerged from obscurity to join Raven's Flock ... Not a brilliant mat technician by any means ... Relied on brawling and The Flock's interference to win matches, but recently split from the group ... Amazingly, he has yet to lose his exposed nipple ring during a brawl ... Last ranked in the 1993 "PWI 500" (he was number 142).

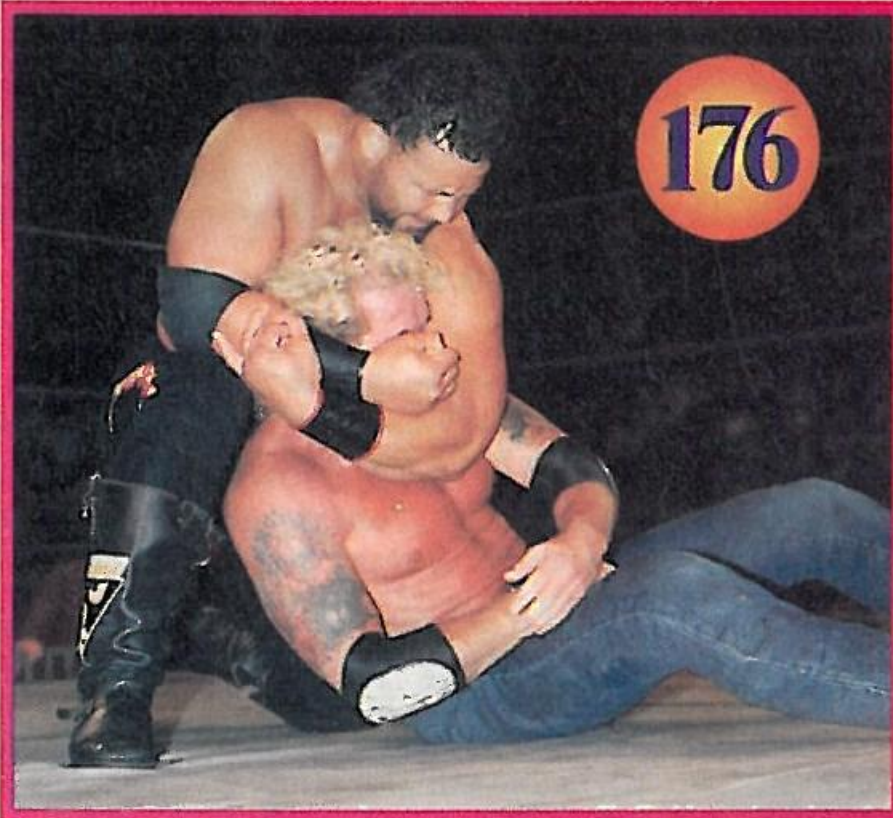
174 BUFF BAGWELL (6'1", 240, 8, 89) Suffered an unfortunate neck injury when Rick Steiner used a top rope building on him during a live broadcast of *Thunder* on June 12 ... This injury might sideline Buff for a year, but he has returned to WCW for interviews ... A member of Vicious and Delicious with Scott Norton ... Feuded with Scott Steiner over who was more "buff" before Scott joined him in the NWO ... A member of NWO Hollywood ... Former WCW World tag champ with Cold Scorpio, The Patriot, and Scotty Riggs.

175 CHRIS CHETTI (5'10", 227, 2, 281) Hasn't made much headway during his second year in the sport ... Has faced his cousin Taz numerous times, but has yet to come up with a win ... Technically sound wrestler who learned his trade at ECW's House of Hardcore ... Many in ECW believe he's a future champion.

176 THE BARBARIAN (6'5", 295, 17, 130) A former member of The Dungeon of Doom ... Often teamed with Meng, but is now feuding with him ... Had a brief stint in the WWF as a Headshrinker ... Formed the Powers of Pain with The Warlord in the 1980s ... Another one of wrestling's genuine tough men ... Managed by Jimmy Hart ... May finally be on the last leg of his career after 17 years.

177 MARK CANTERBURY (6'6", 285, 9, 131) Recently shed his Henry Godwinn persona ... He and Dennis Knight, the former Phineas Godwinn, now call themselves Southern Justice ... At least now we can tell he regularly bathes ... As a Godwinn, he was a two-time WWF World tag team champ ... A close ally of Jeff Jarrett ... Competed in WWF's "Brawl For All" tournament.

178 NOBUHIKU TAKADA (6', 226, 15, 43) Star power has begun to fade over the past year ... Still best known for his feud with then-IWGP heavyweight champ Shinya Hashimoto ... Former UWFI champion ... Many thought he would rise to challenge for a chance to wrestle Antonio Inoki in his retirement bout, but he didn't ... Devastates opponents with his swift, strong kicks and palm strikes ... One of the world's foremost submission virtuosos, he prefers his cross-chest armbreaker as a finisher.



The Barbarian smothers DDP

179 DARREN DROZDOV (6'2", 268, 1, NL) This former Denver Bronco is now in his rookie year in the WWF ... Gained a reputation as a genuine tough guy by advancing to the semifinals of the "Brawl For All" tournament ... Started out as a member of LOD 2000, but soon went out on his own ... Nicknamed "Puke" because of his uncanny ability to vomit on command.

180 DOUG WILLIAMS (6', 230, 4, NL) Competes for Great Britain-based Hammerlock Wrestling ... Tore a shoulder ligament during a tag match against "Sledgehammer" Andre Baker and Jim Neidhart ... Just now returning to competition ... His September 1997 submission victory over British star Tyrone Archer in Gillingham, Kent, was his greatest win this year ... A former national judo champion with four black belts in the martial arts.

181 GRAN HAMADA (5'4", 195, 27, 205) Fast-paced high-flyer just turned 47, but still amazes fans with his unique Lucha Libre and puroresu style ... Perennial fan favorite in Japan, where he competes for Michinoku Pro, among other groups ... Has extensive international experience, having toured the U.S., Europe, and Mexico ... Famed for his top-rope huracanrana and windup headbutt ... Won the WWA light-weight belt from Super Boy this past spring ... Finisher is the jumping swinging DDT.

182 TOM BRANDI (6'3", 255, 13, 123) Competed in the WWF as Salvatore Sincere before choosing to compete under his real name ... Feuded with Marc Mero after coming to the aid of Sable ... Recently left the WWF ... Now competes on the independent circuit again ... A mainstay in the NWA, where he is a top contender for all titles ... Finisher is known as the "House Quake."

183 EMILIO CHARLES JR. (5'8", 210, 18, NL) This EMLL veteran turned *technico* after losing the CMLL tag team title ... Has been feuding with former partner Dr. Wagner Jr. ever since ... Has enlisted The Headhunters as allies ... Has also held the CMLL tag, NWA middleweight, Mexican National Trios, CMLL middleweight, CMLL Trios, and Mexican National middleweight titles ... Uses the camel clutch as his finisher.

184 GLACIER (6'2", 245, 9, 146) After a year in which it looked like he was ready to emerge as a star, Glacier has drifted back into obscurity ... Ring entrances are among the most elaborate in the sport ... The arena lights are turned off and "snow" falls from the rafters as he approaches the ring ... Has has several shots at ending Goldberg's streak, but hasn't come close to doing it ... Seems to have lost something since he started using a more aggressive style.

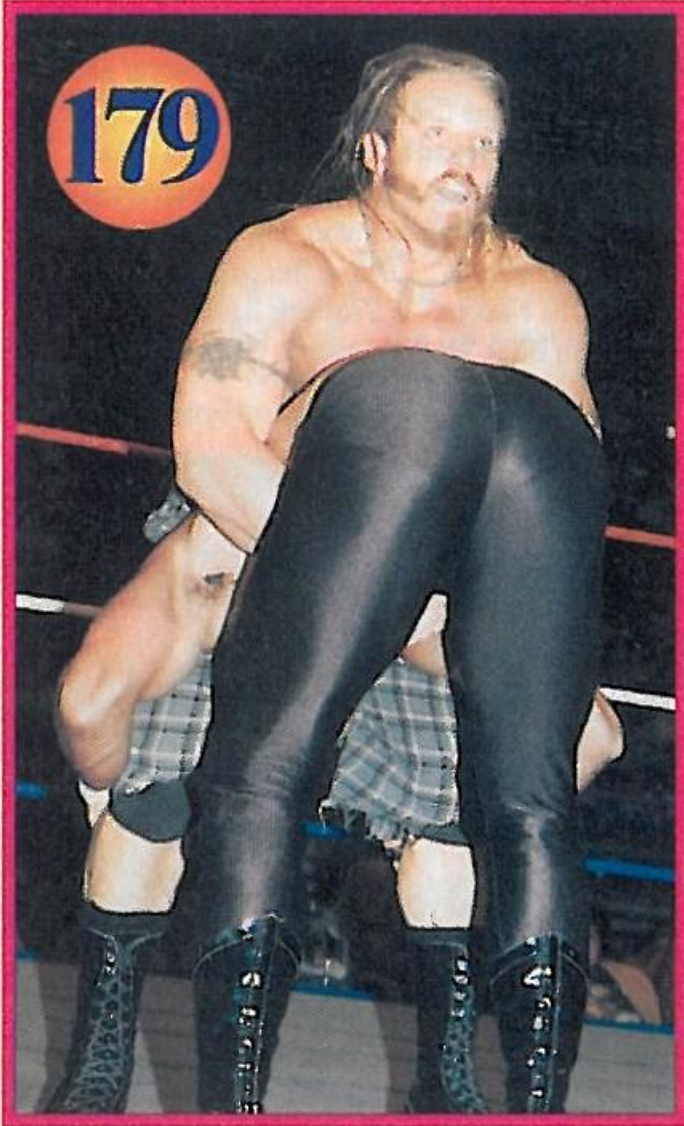
185 JUNJI HIRATA (6'1", 253, 20, 105) Formerly known as the masked Super Strong Machine, he's now carving out his own niche in New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Occasionally reprises his classic tag duo with Shinya Hashimoto ... Bounced back nicely from a serious knee injury last year ... Long-time rival of Masa Chono ... Hasn't been nearly as active in 1998 as he was in the past.

186 RAGE (5'9", 230, 3, 239) One-half of High Voltage ... Made some progress this year against some of the makeshift teams in WCW ... A graduate of WCW's Power Plant ... Relies on power more than anything else ... Not very technically inclined and is easily overcome by wrestlers with strong mat skills.

187 ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER (6'1", 360, 40, 97) The Butcher is a wrestling legend ... Competes more overseas than in the United States ... Loves to carve up opponents with a fork that he usually hides somewhere in his large tights ... Elbowdrop is still a devastating move ... The fact that he's been able to hold his weight at 360 for the last 30 years or so is truly amazing ... Basically, a hired gun managers and promoters use to intimidate other wrestlers ... His appearance on a wrestling show usually means one thing: chaos!

188 STEVEN REGAL (6'4", 247, 14, 80) Left WCW earlier this year and resurfaced in the WWF ... Battled pneumonia for several months and lost about 25 pounds ... A tremendous mat wrestler, Regal is the master of many submission holds ... Former WCW TV champion ... If he can regain the old Regal magic, he should be a top contender to the WWF World title eventually.

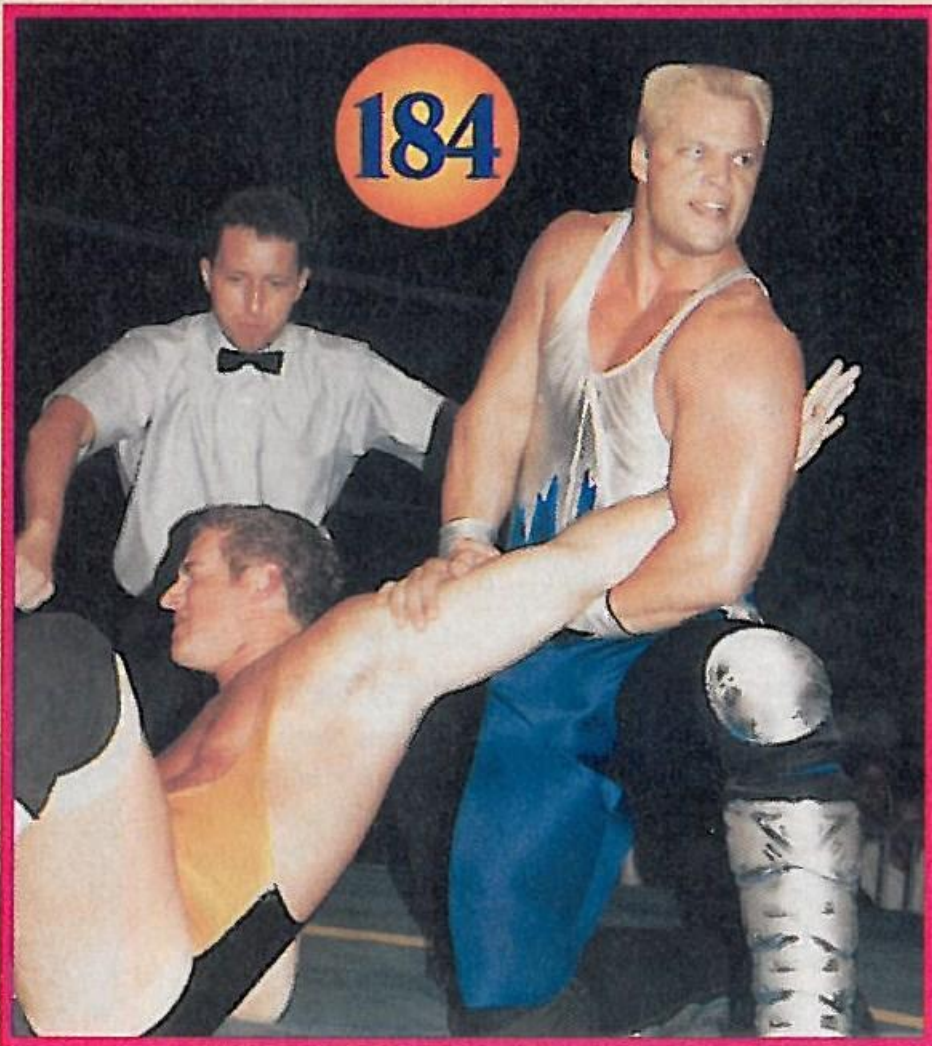
189 RENO RIGGINS (5'7", 200, 8, NL) This Nashville native was the last wrestler trained by Tojo Yamamoto ... Wrestled in the WWF, where he teamed with



Drozdo regurgitates what he's learned

Barry Horowitz and feuded with The Rockers ... Entered the USWA in 1992 and won the Southern belt, then returned to the WWF ... Retired in 1994 to spend time with his wife ... Returned to active competition three years later to team with Steven Dunn ... Three-time former Music City tag team champ ... Currently feuding with Flash Flanagan and Wolfie D in MCW.

190 STEVE McMICHAEL (6'2", 270, 2, NL) "Mongo" spent most of the year in seclusion ... Returned this summer and began demolishing lower-level opponents ... Still sticks four fingers high into the air and would love to re-form The Four Horsemen ... Unfortunately, Arn Anderson doesn't want to do that ... His "tombstone" piledriver is deadly ... Inadvertently left out of last year's "PWI 500."

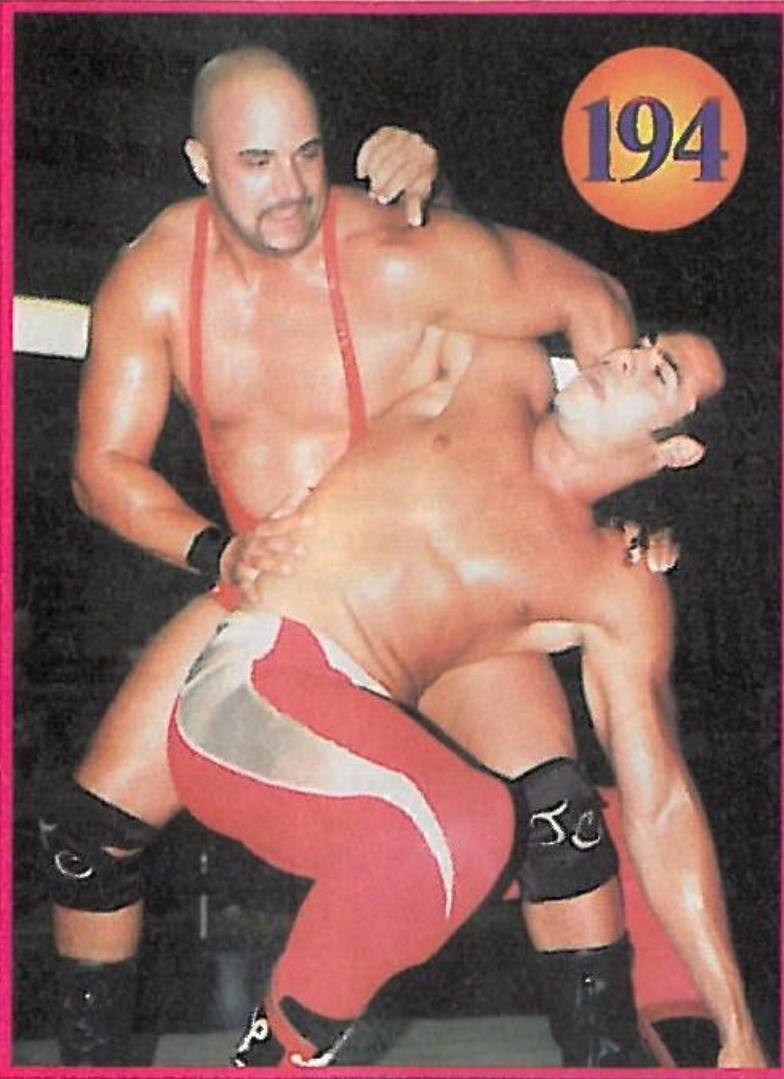


Glacier's gone cold as of late

191 MARK HENRY (6'2", 413, 2, NL) The anchor of The Nation ... Starting to show some promise in the ring ... This former Olympic weightlifter made his pro debut on September 22, 1996, defeating Jerry "The King" Lawler at In Your House X, but he broke his leg soon afterward ... After recovering from the leg injury, he spent the next year or so learning as much as he could about wrestling from trainer Tom Prichard ... Fared remarkably well in a feud with Vader this year.

192 KURRGAN (6'11", 345, 9, NL) This enormous competitor entered the WWF as a member of The Truth Commission, which evolved into "The Parade Of Oddities" with Jackyl as the manager ... Although he isn't all that muscular, he is deceptively strong ... When he locks on his "iron claw," a submission is virtually certain ... Since taking Sable as a manager, he has become almost pleasant ... Has even sung to the crowd on occasion.

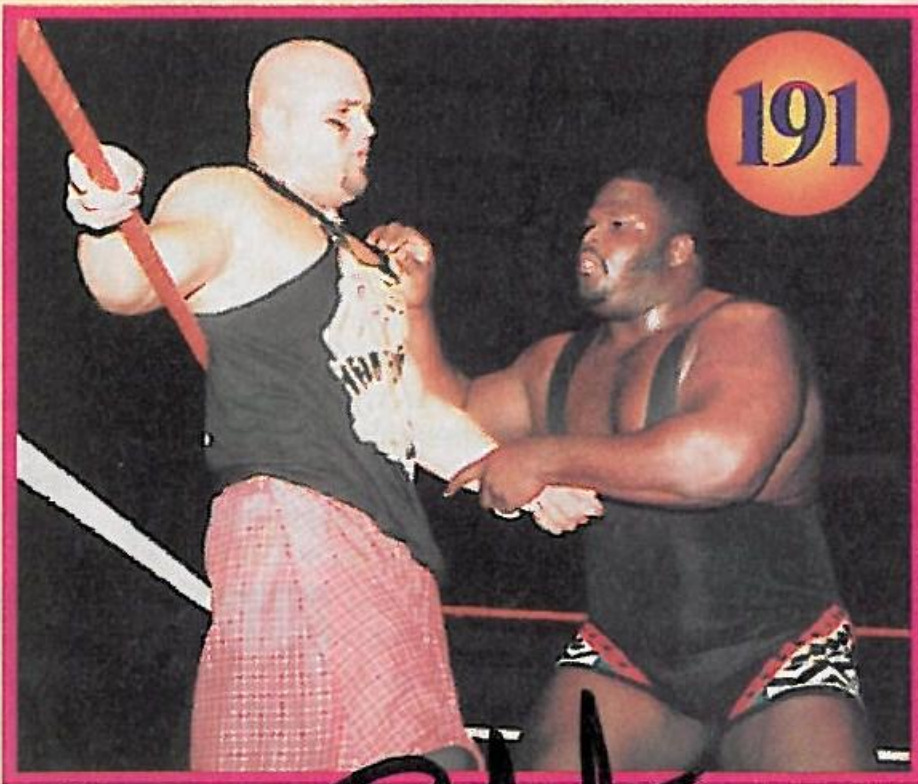
193 RICK MARTEL (6', 236, 26, 363) Surprised everyone by winning the WCW TV belt this year ... Before he won the title, he was barely even considered a contender ... Unfortunately, he seriously his knee the night he lost the TV belt to Booker T ... Tried to make a comeback, but just before press time, he announced his retirement.



Cicero puts the stretch on Julio Sanchez

194 JIMMY CICERO (6'1", 245, 6, 297) The "Wiseguy" is the current IPWA heavyweight champion ... Pinned Lance Diamond in a six-man elimination match in which the belt was on the line ... Cicero is not only a talented wrestler, but he also runs a bodyguard service ... Good technical wrestler, but can brawl as well ... Currently wrestling for several East Coast independent federations, including Int'l Pro Wrestling, where he is feuding with Devon Storm ... Looks a bit like Steve Austin with his shaved head and black trunks, but Cicero had the look first.

195 KAOS (6', 235, 3, 246) The other half of High Voltage ... The team holds several victories over Public Enemy ... Remained pro-WCW for the duration of the WCW-NWO feud, which is more than can be said for some bigger stars ... Should be loyal to WCW, as he was trained at the Power Plant ... Very muscular with little technical ability ... See Rage.



Henry has shown marked improvement

196 RICK MONTE (5'11", 228, 26, 149) Still a member of The Rock 'n' Roll Express with partner Robert Gibson ... Entered the WWF under the management of Jim Cornette as part of the NWA faction ... Found times had changed and victories were few and far between ... When Cornette brought in The New Midnight Express, he and Gibson became expendable and got the boot ... Has since returned to the independent circuit.

197 ROCCO ROCK (6'3", 251, 20, 166) A member of Public Enemy along with partner Johnny Grunge ... The more accomplished wrestler of the two ... Has also wrestled periodically in the NWA, where he has battled Doug Gilbert over the NWA National heavyweight title ... A former boxer ... A former ECW and WCW tag team champion.

198 GRAN NANIWA (5'7", 194, 4, 276) Popular Michinoku Pro athlete recently competed in Big Japan Pro Wrestling's light-heavyweight tournament ... Often teams with his mentor, Super Delfin ... Being courted by All Japan and might join its junior heavyweight division ... Wears giant crab claws to the ring ... Using his rolling STF, he took some impressive victories in the "JYB" tournament in Michinoku Pro this year ... Favorite move is the "Spinning Doctor Bomb."

199 VAMPIRO CANADIENSE (6'3", 235, 9, 271) Recently made his WCW Monday Nitro debut ... Competed in AAA, Promo Azteca, and EMLL during the last year and virtually every smaller Mexican promotion during his career ... Feuded with Pirata Morgan over the IWC heavyweight title in Azteca ... Native of Ontario, Canada, but has wrestled almost exclusively in Mexico and Japan ... Arsenal includes numerous martial arts kicks, the figure-four leglock, and the "Michinoku Driver II."

200 "BIG" DICK DUDLEY (6'3", 285, 5, 279) The meanest of the Dudley brothers ... Wrestles frequently, but is almost always the last to get physically involved in huge brawls ... Once he does, though, he's hard to stop ... Rarely speaks in public, but does stare a lot ... Feuding with Tommy Dreamer, The Sandman, and half-brother Spike Dudley.

201 YUJI YASURAOKA (5'10", 194, 6, 278) Young high-flyer is the top junior heavyweight in the WAR promotion ... Broke his jaw in a match against Koji Kanemoto at this year's "Best Of The Super Junior" tournament and was forced to take

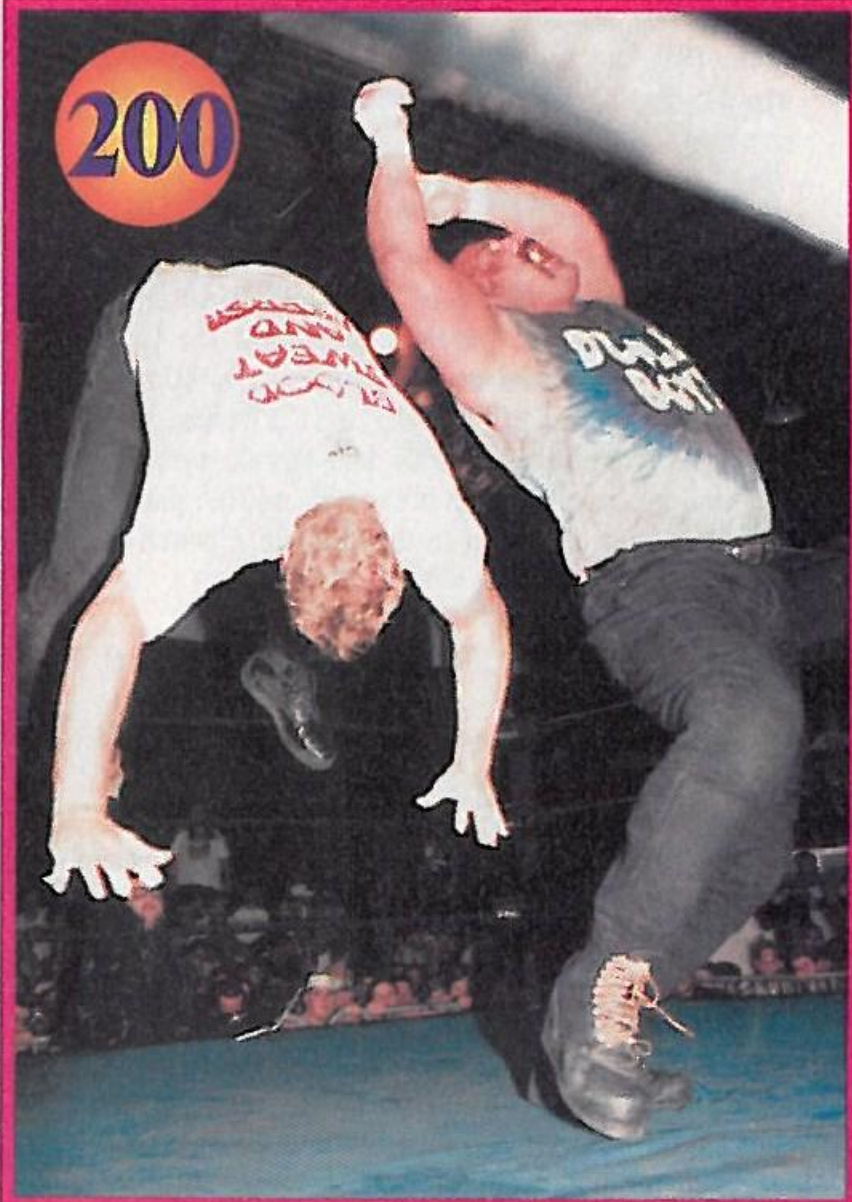
forfeit losses for his remaining bouts ... Former partner of Lance Storm ... Briefly visited WCW last year, where he was unsuccessful in matches with Rey Mysterio Jr. ... Quick and agile, he often dashes up the turnbuckle and executes planchas to the floor ... Favorite hold is the reverse prawn hold.

202 SHAWN STASIAK (6'4", 242, 1, NL) The son of former WWF champ Stan Stasiak ... Former collegiate wrestler for Boise State, where he earned his degree in communications ... A well-rounded wrestler who can take to the air or stay on the mat ... Previously wrestled in Portland ... Has wrestled in a few dark matches on Raw cards ... From Oakville, Ontario.

203 STEVIE RAY (6'1", 244, 9, 93) Out most of the year because of an illness, but returned to find brother Booker T thriving as a singles wrestler ... A seven-time former WCW World tag champion along with his brother ... Bigger and stronger than Booker ... Seems to be jealous of the success Booker has had ... Defended the TV belt in Booker's place several times this summer and lost it to Chris Jericho in August ... Joining NWO Hollywood could be his way to step out of the shadow of Booker T.

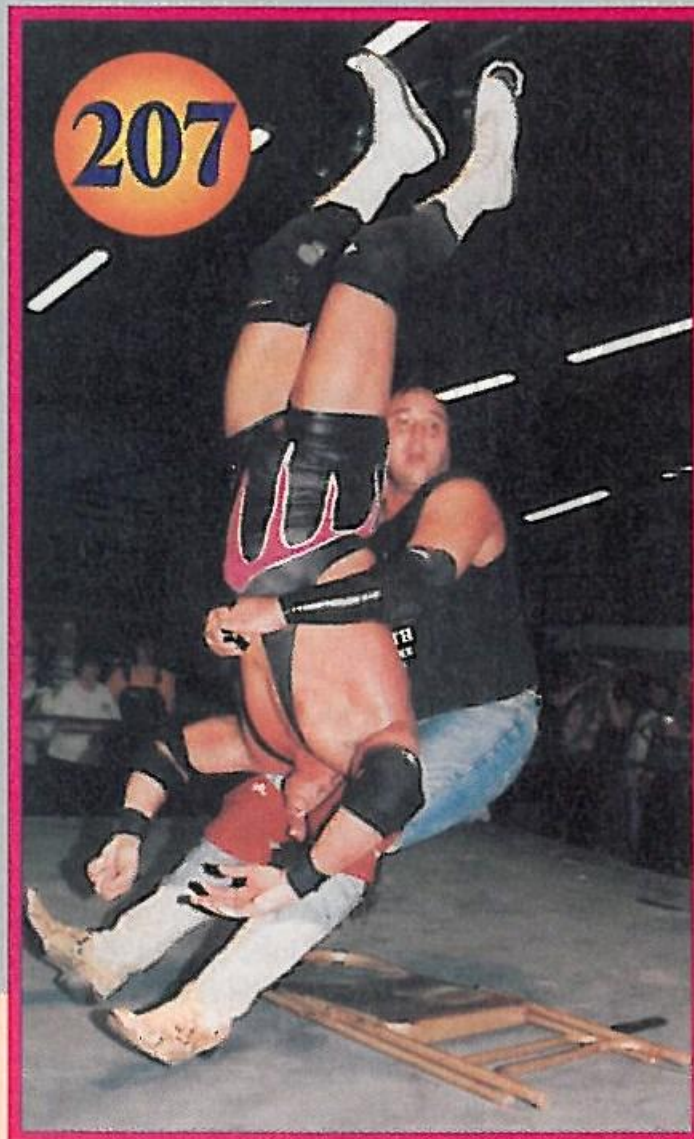
204 ABISMO NEGRO (5'8", 190, 6, NL) The most hated *rudo* in Mexico ... Caused a near-riot during his tag team match at *Rey de Reyes* by illegally piledriving one of his opponents, Jorge Brennan, a host of the most popular TV show in Mexico ... Even his partner, Pentagon, was disgusted by what he did ... Now feuding with Pentagon ... The current Mexican National middleweight champ ... Formerly known as Winners in AAA.

205 JOHNNY SMITH (6', 235, 16, 116) An accomplished wrestler who competes mainly in All-Japan ... Feuded with Christian Cage on several independent cards ... Is able to combine mat wrestling with high-flying maneuvers ... Seems to float in and out of the United States without making enough of an impact to stay ... Competed in ECW briefly.



"Big" Dick flips The Sandman

207



Gilbert shows Steve Dunn to his seat

206 BLUE DEMON JR. (5'6½", 180, 12, NL) Son of The Blue Demon, a legendary star in Mexico in the 1960s and 1970s ... Feuded with Black Demon this year ... The current UWA junior heavyweight champ, he beat Black Demon for the belt earlier this year ... Uses a top-rope Frankensteiner as a finishing move ... Currently competing as a *technico*, although he has been a *rudo* in the past ... Part of a four-wrestler group known as Los Atomicos Juniors.

207 DOUG GILBERT (6'2", 241, 12, 124) A former NWA National heavyweight champion ... Has also been competing in Music City Wrestling, Power Pro Wrestling, and several Tennessee independents ... The current IWA heavyweight champion in Japan ... A brawler who uses the "Michinoku Driver" as his finisher ... Long-time rival of Buddy Landell.

208 MATT HARDY (6'1", 234, 4, 435) Sometimes competes in the WWF with his brother, Jeff, as The Hardy Boys ... Had good showings against Doug Furnas and Phil Lafon, The Headbangers, and The Truth Commission ... Also known as "Surge" ... Has held the Omega, New Frontier, ECWF, NCW, and CWF titles ... All those promotions are based in the Mid-Atlantic region ... Has held even more tag team titles ... He and Jeff pushed Rob Van Dam and Sabu to the limit in a match in Greenville, North Carolina.

209 KAMA (6'6", 340, 9, 156) A proud member of The Nation ... Now known as "The Godfather," he comes to the ring with three, well, uh, valets that he offers to his opponents in return for a forfeit win ... Had some success as the tag team partner of both D-Lo Brown and Mark Henry ... Was once known as "The Ultimate Fighting Machine" because of his extensive martial arts background.

210 MARTY JANNETTY (5'11", 230, 14, 154) Currently competing in WCW, though he hasn't accomplished much there ... Hasn't found much success since his WWF Rocker days ... A former WWF and AWA tag team champion with Shawn Michaels ... Still uses "Rocker Dropper" from time to time ... A better tag team wrestler than singles competitor.

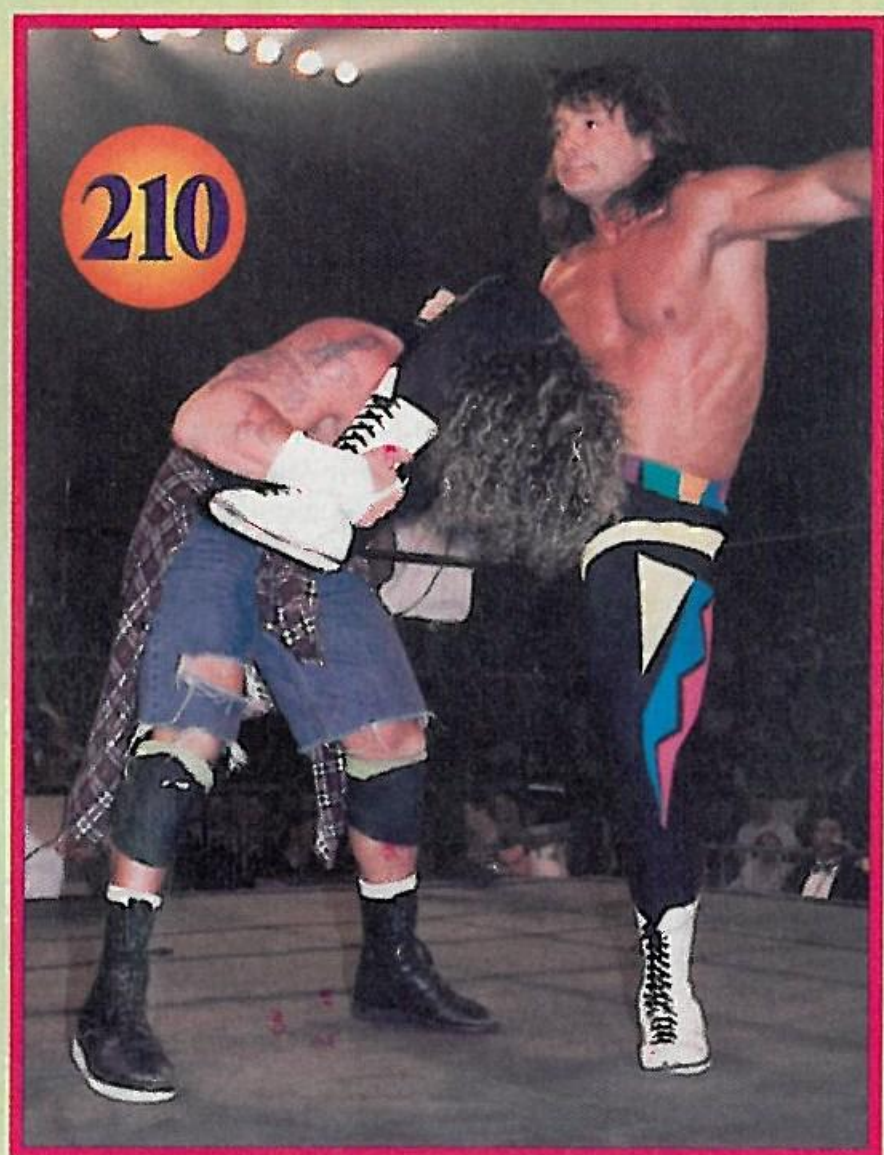
211 JIM POWERS (5'11", 351, 12, 214) A regular competitor in WCW, but often gets lost in the mid-card shuffle ... Also wrestled in Puerto Rico this year ... Muscular build doesn't allow for much movement, which can cause big problems for him against the high-flying cruiserweights in WCW.

212 NAOHIRO HOSHIKAWA (5'6", 177, 4, NL) Trained in the classic martial arts, this Michinoku Pro fan favorite has made the transition to wrestling quite nicely ... Shocked critics by winning this year's "JYB" tournament ... Destroys opponents with hard kicks to the face from the top rope ... Usually teams with the high-flying Masato Yakushiji ... Fans voted him one of the most improved wrestlers of 1998 ... Uses an array of suplexes, but his favorite is the Northern Lights version.

213 LOU MARCONI (5'11", 227, 6, 233) Defeated Tom Brandi for the Steel City title in May ... Stevie Richards interfered to help Marconi win ... "Beef Stew" does well against larger opponents like Brandi and junior heavyweights such as Reckless Youth and Christian York ... He and his manager, Notorious Norm, are known as The Spice Boys ... Improves each year ... Hails from Cleveland ... Has been seen on WWF TV.

214 EL DANDY (5'6", 195, 17, 167) This veteran *rudo* jumped to Promo Azteca this year ... Feuded with El Salsero and Super Calo ... Frequently teams with Jerry Estrada ... Has held virtually every middleweight title in Mexico, as well as a slew of others ... A good mat technician who can execute the odd aerial move.

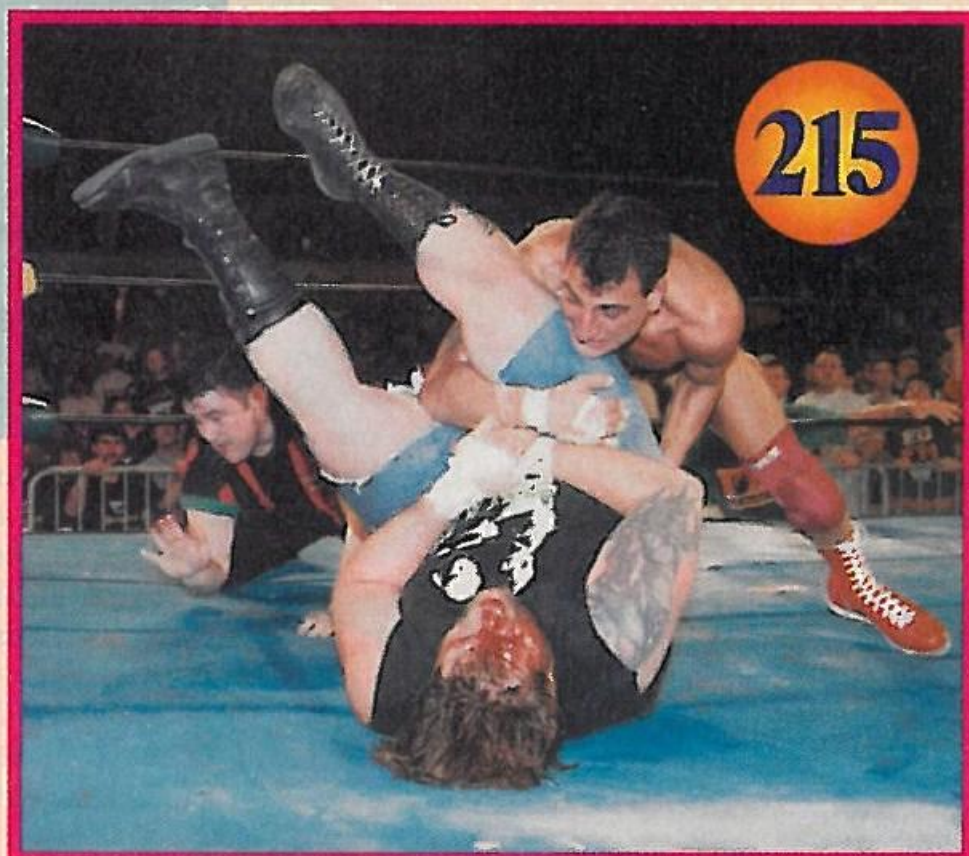
215 LITTLE GUIDO (5'9", 201, 7, 232) The only full-blooded Italian in the FBI ... Managed by "The Big Don," Tommy Rich ... Spent much of the year feuding with Axl Rotten and Mahoney ... The FBI's matches



People are still ravin' about Jannetty

with The Blue Meanie and Super Nova never seem to get started, as Rotten and Mahoney often attack them ... Also spent time verbally jawing with FBI partner Tracey Smothers.

216 THE BLUE MEANIE (6'1", 310, 4, 234) This strange character has been around ECW since the days when Raven ruled the federation ... Spent most of this year competing as himself, which is a switch from last year's identity crisis ... Recently lost some weight, but will probably find it soon at the bottom of a gallon of Ben and Jerry's ... Also competes in several independent promotions ... Still lovable, but will flatten you with a moonsault in a flash.



Little Guido rolls up Mahoney

217 KARL OULETTE (5'11", 255, 6, 193) One-half of The Quebecers in the WWF ... Left WCW when the tag team division started to fizzle ... Unfortunately, The Quebecers brought that fizzle to the WWF with them ... They had a hard time even earning shots at the World tag title ... Competed in the "Brawl For All" despite having only one good eye.

218 SUPER PARKA (5'7", 185, 14, NL) Formerly known as Volador ... Another wrestler who jumped from AAA to Promo Azteca ... Former National tag team champ ... Frequently teams with El Salsero in Mexico ... Feuded with Pantera and El Dandy this year ... A Marc Mero lookalike ... Wonder what Sable would think of that ... Combines aerial maneuvers with fine mat skills.

219 REESE (7'2", 360, 4, NL) The other WCW giant is a member of Raven's Flock ... Was defeated by Juventud Guerrera at The Great American Bash ... Fairly agile in spite of his girth ... Has yet to really make the impact one would expect from a competitor this big ... Trained by the late Big John Studd ... Needs to become a little more coordinated before he can make any headway.

220 DENNIS KNIGHT (6'1", 246, 8, 143) A former WWF World tag team champ as one-half of the Godwinns ... Briefly managed by Sunny in 1996 ... Spent part of the year away from wrestling ... Returned as part of Tennessee Lee's Southern Justice, but he and Mark Canterbury recently dumped Lee ... Has yet to make an impact as part of new tag team/bodyguard combo ... Watches Jeff Jarrett's back ... Big, rugged competitor.

221 JOHNNY GRUNGE (6'3", 263, 11, 157) One-half of the WCW tag team Public Enemy with Rocco Rock ... A former WCW and ECW tag team champion ... A brawler who loves to break tables ... PE hasn't had a whole lot of success of late ... But the team's ring entrances still bring the fans to their feet ... Has wrestled almost exclusively in tag teams throughout his career.

222 WING KANEMURA (5'10", 183, 189) Continues to pursue the right to call himself "FMW's finest athlete" ... joined "Team No Respect," a band of rulebreakers who often prance around in only their underwear ... Occasionally teams with Fuyukuni M. Gannosuke ... Still manages to mix some high-risk aerial moves into his power-oriented offense ... Briefly held both the Independent World and Brass Knux titles in FMW ... Routinely attacks and humiliates Atsushi Onita ... Power bomb is his favorite move.

Skilled *technico* Pantera

223 BARRY DARSOW (6'2", 303, 12, NL) Veteran wrestler still competes regularly in WCW ... While not contending for any titles, he often upsets younger up-and-comers and older wrestlers alike ... Has held the WWF and NWA world tag team titles during his career ... Was ranked 230th in the 1996 "PWT 500."

224 PANTERA (5'7", 185, 13, NL) Another masked *technico* competing in EMLL ... Competed in AAA and Promo Azteca in the past ... Former CMLL welterweight champ ... Spent most of this year feuding with Super Parka ... Lost to WWF light heavyweight champ Taka Michinoku at No Way Out pay-per-view ... Combines good aerial skills with solid mat skills.

225 TAKASHI IIZUKA (6', 231, 12, 186) Former teammate of Kazuo Yamazaki truly excels in singles competition ... Often gets lost in the mix of talent-rich New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Fine technical wrestler is excellent on the mat and is an accomplished freestyle

wrestler ... Uses a variety of suplexes to wear down opponents, then likes to finish them off with his signature "Blizzard" suplex.

226 RAY GONZALES (5'11", 220, 7, NL) This Dorado, Puerto Rico, native is a three-time former WWC Universal champion ... Turned against Carlos Colon and the Justice Army in May ... Has won almost every title in the WWC—he is a former WWC junior heavyweight champion, Puerto Rican champion, and WWC tag team champion ... Still feuding with Colon, his former mentor ... Uses the figure-four leglock as his finisher.

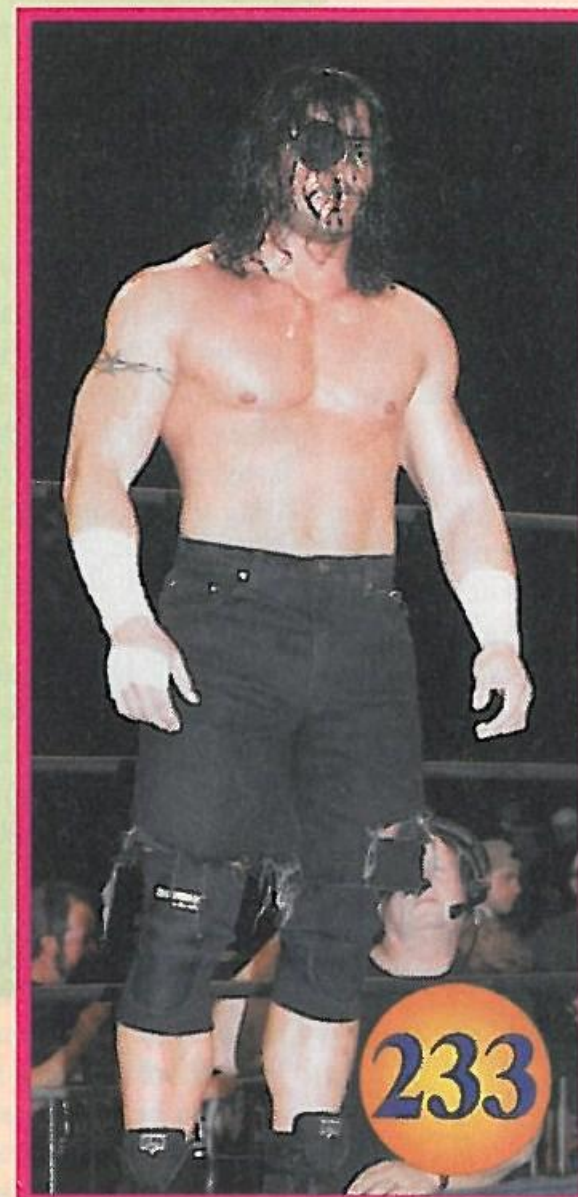
227 MENG (6', 294, 21, 95) Competed infrequently in WCW this year ... A true tough man in and out of the squared circle ... Competed in the WWF as Haku ... Formerly managed by Jimmy Hart ... Long-time partner of The Barbarian, but the two recently started feuding ... A powerful man who backs down from no one, including Bill Goldberg.

228 BRIAN ADAMS (6'6", 322, 12, 137) Left the WWF, then entered WCW ... Became a member of NWO Hollywood ... Lost to Bret Hart on *Nitro* before Hart joined the NWO ... Has basically been a fall guy for Hollywood Hogan's group ... Used to compete in the WWF as Crush, both as a member of The Disciples of Apocalypse and The Nation of Domination.

229 APOLO DANTES (6', 230, 10, NL) This EMLL competitor is a second-generation star. His father, Alfonso Dantes, was a legendary star in Mexico in the 1960s and 1970s ... Former NWA light heavyweight champ (his father also held that title) ... Frequently involved in six-man tag matches with El Hijo del Santo and Dr. Wagner Jr. ... Currently feuding with The Headhunters ... Has toured for EMLL in Japan on several occasions ... Possesses good technical skills, but is also a dirty wrestler.

230 SID VICIOUS (6'8", 318, 11, 50) After his departure from the WWF, "Psycho" Sid has been practically invisible ... Popped up on several NWA cards and wrestled the likes of Mabel and King Kong Bundy ... His neck and back injuries have many wondering if he will ever return to a full-time schedule ... His constant disappearing act is growing old with fans and promoters alike ... A two-time former WWF World champ, but that seems like centuries ago now.

231 J.C. ICE (5'8", 195, 7, 107) Has competed in several promotions throughout the year, including Music City Wrestling and ECW ... Teams with partner Wolfie D as PG-13 ... Has not been impressive in his few singles matches in ECW ... Often places too much of an emphasis on comedy instead of his battle plan during matches ... A very fluid wrestler, but lack of size hurts him ... Competed in the WWF as part of the original Nation of Domination.



Riggs is still looking for that big win

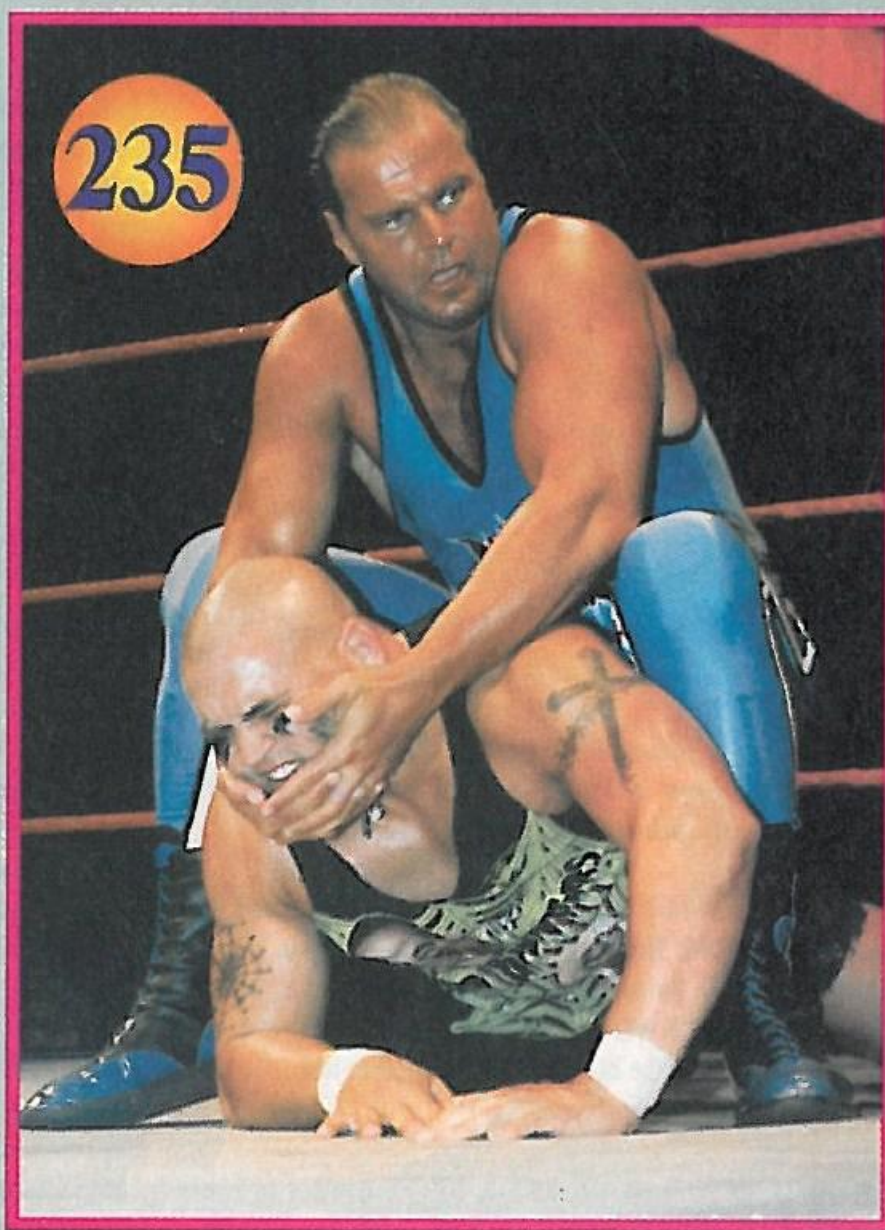
232 DORY FUNK JR. (6'2", 250, 34, 198) One of wrestling's great senior legends now helps WWF hopefuls hone their craft ... Still wrestles on occasion in Japan, and in the U.S. to a lesser extent ... Originator of the hold now called the "Texas Cloverleaf" ... Spent parts of the last few years challenging current NWA heavyweight champ Dan Severn in hopes of winning the gold one final time.

233 SCOTTY RIGGS (6', 220, 6, 150) Feuded with Raven and other members of his Flock late in '97 ... Lost eyesight in one eye and started wearing a patch over it ... Entered Raven's Flock but became just another one of Raven's flunkies ... Former WCW World tag team champ with Marcus Bagwell (they were known as The American Males) ... Hasn't won a big match in months.

234 KING KONG BUNDY (6'4", 446, 17, 195) This big WWF star of the mid-1980s is still making waves on the independent circuit ... The reigning WWWA champ is a top contender to several

other heavyweight titles ... Still asks referees to make a five-count for the final pinfall ... Continues to feud with several of biggest men on the indy scene, including Boogie Woogie Brown, Mark Mest, and The Cremator.

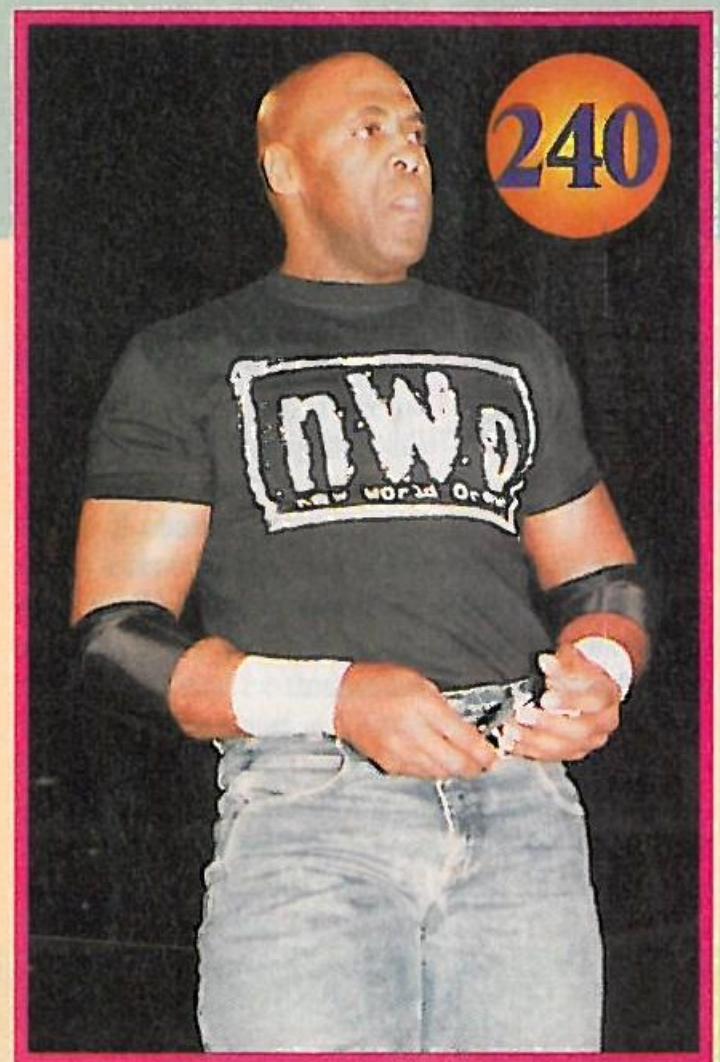
235 JACQUES ROUGEAU (6'2", 253, 21, 184) Returned to the WWF earlier this year ... He and Karl Oulette are once again being called The Quebecers ... Unfortunately, the change of scenery hasn't done much to jumpstart their careers ... Still can't find the success that also eluded them in WCW ... May start to slow down very soon.



Rougeau camel clutches Headbanger Mosh

236 FRANK STALLETTO (6'2", 237, 6, 251) Excellent amateur wrestling background, but still bends the rules ... Has feuded with Brick Bronsky, Johnny Graham, and Julio Sanchez in IPW ... Bouts against all three have been very good technical wrestling matches ... Has formed a successful team in Steel City Wrestling with Lou Marconi ... Held the Steel City tag team belts with several different partners ... Nicknamed "Handsome" and claims to not only be the most handsome man in wrestling, but that country music star Billy Ray Cyrus looks like him!

237 STREAK (6'4", 288, 6, 260) Formerly known as Spellbinder ... Currently competing in Power Pro Wrestling ... Muscular physique rivals that of any bodybuilder ... Wrestled on several occasions in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling, where the fans loved him ... Former USWA Southern champion and has also wrestled briefly in the WWF.



Vincent has job security with NWO Hollywood

238 MOSCO DE LA MERCED (5'5", 170, 6, NL) Young, masked wrestler is noted for his spectacular aerial repertoire, which includes corkscrew moonsaults, somersault planchas, and quebradas ... Has been a *rudo* his whole career ... Started in AAA before joining Promo Azteca ... An accomplished mat wrestler who often uses the Northern Lights and German suplexes ... Has also toured Japan ... Held the Mexican National tag title this year.

239 JEFF HARDY (6', 212, 5, NL) Along with brother Matt, has competed in the WWF as part of The Hardy Boys ... Has held several independent titles ... Based in the Mid-Atlantic region ... His finisher is the shooting star press ... Part of a group called the "WWF Invasion," which makes appearances in the Carolinas.

240 VINCENT (5'11", 230, 13, 209) The head of NWO Hollywood security ... Wrestles infrequently in WCW, but seems just as content to serve as a second to his fellow "NWO-ites" ... Either way, he's sure to do what he can to give the black and white another win ... Also frequents the independent scene.

241 LUXDOR (6', 190, 5, NL) A member of *Los Cadetes de Espacio* in AAA ... Has feuded with other groups like *Los Vatos Locos*, *Los Insectos*, and *Los*

Vipers ... A masked *technico* wrestler ... Uses *La Magistral Cradle* as a finisher ... One of the top aerialists in AAA, favoring many high-risk maneuvers such as the somersault plancha, tope con hilo, and the corkscrew moonsault from the top rope to the floor.

242 MIKEY WHIPWRECK (5'7", 181, 6, 201) This perennial underdog is still battling the bigger boys in ECW ... Hasn't had much success of late ... Spends a lot of time on the disabled list because of his ailing knees ... Needs to learn how to defend his body better to avoid injury ... Former ECW heavyweight, TV, and tag team champ—the only competitor to hold all three ECW belts.

243 TONY ANTHONY (6'1", 230, 21, 217) This tough Southern brawler has found himself in the Tennessee independents again ... Had a brief stint in the WWF as T.L. Hopper ... Wily veteran is still very hard to defeat ... Sometimes has his lovely wife, Kimberly, at ringside with him ... Good with his fists, but lacks technical knowledge.

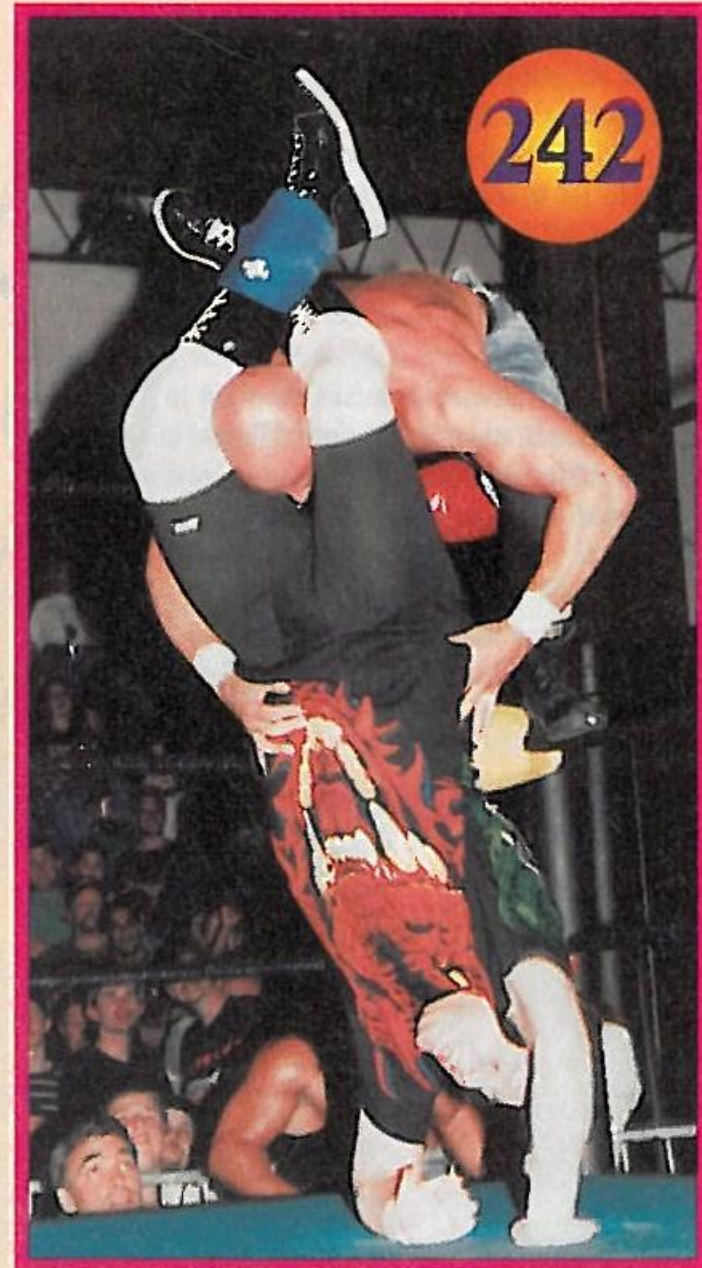
244 PENTAGON (5'6", 190, 6) Long-time *rudo* and bitter arch-rival of Octagon turned *technico* at *Rey de Reyes* when tag partner Abismo Negro piledrived TV personality Jorge Brennan on a steel chair ... Was attacked by Negro and Fuerza Guerrera, but saved by Octagon ... Former Mexican National middleweight champ ... Combines martial arts with mat skills.

245 CHICKY STARR (5'10", 220, 22, NL) Veteran wrestler and manager in Puerto Rico ... Has held the WWC tag team, junior heavyweight, Caribbean tag team, and North American tag team titles ... Veteran competitor has been in WWC since 1985 ... Wrestled Carlos Colon in a match in which the loser couldn't wrestle for a year ... Returned as the masked Golden Boy ... Was unmasked by Ray Gonzalez and suspended for a year by the promotion ... Who knows if he'll show up again under a different mask.

246 MASATO YAKUSHIJI (5'5", 155, 5, 284) Relative newcomer to Michinoku Pro has really turned some heads this past year ... Protege of Dick Togo ... High-flyer seems to be taking pages from the Rey Misterio Jr. playbook ... Often struggles in singles competition, but shines in tag team bouts with partner Naohiro Hoshikawa ... Compensates for lack of size with his tremendous speed and dexterity ... Can string together a long series of armdrags from virtually any position ... Signature move is the springboard swinging huracanrana.

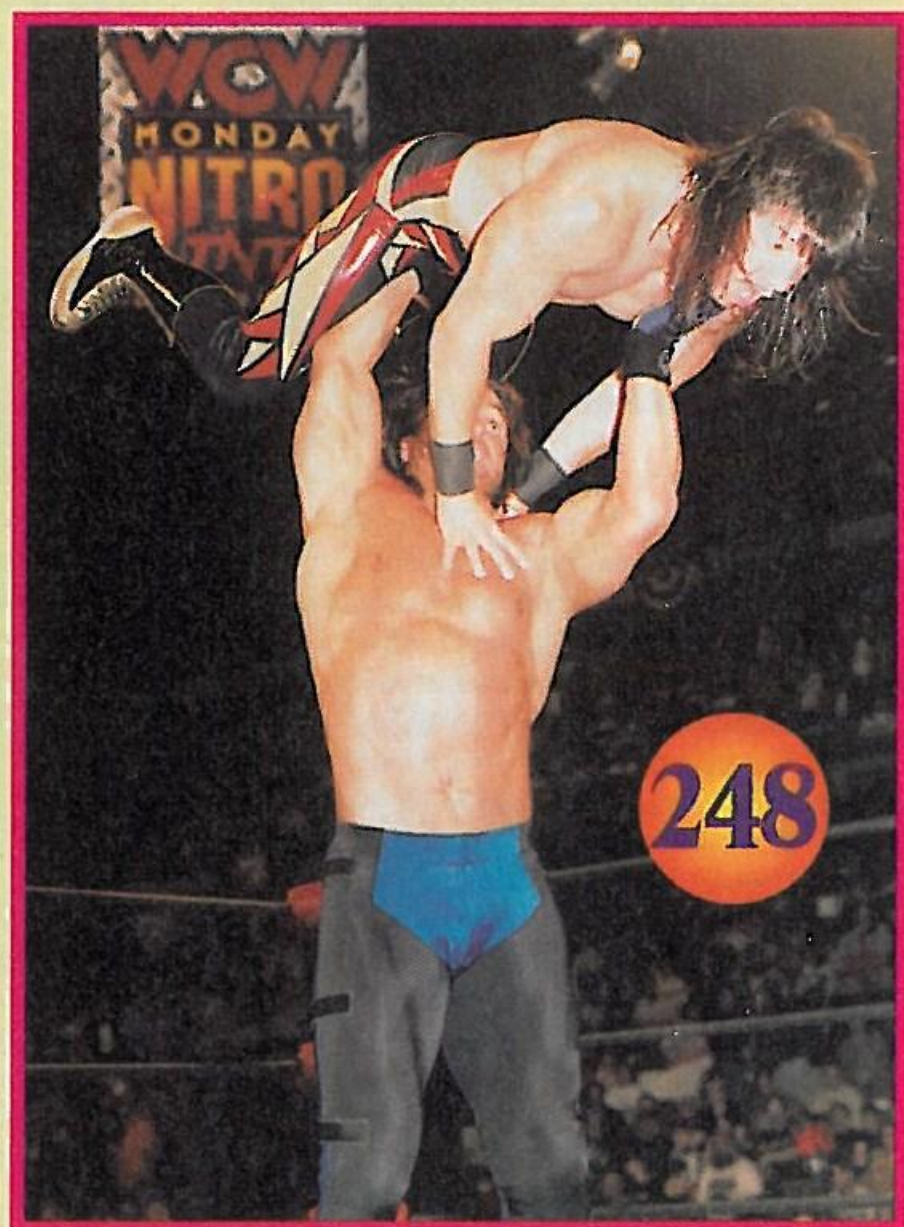
247 MR. WRESTLING III (5'11", 232, 16, 303) The most popular wrestler in the Mid-South, but a hated figure everywhere else ... Refuses to align with anyone except Mid-South champ Kevin Northcutt ... The current Texas state champion ... Sometimes loads his kneepad to beat his opponents ... Became famous during his feud with Dick Murdoch a few years ago ... Has experience in WCW and the WWF ... Trained by Mr. Wrestling II and Don Carson.

248 SCOTT PUTSKI (6', 235, 12, 183) The son of Ivan Putski has had a tough year ... Suffered a knee injury that kept him out of action for a few months ... Resurfaced in WCW, where he has yet to make any real impact ... Has also competed in the WWF and the Northeast independents.



Whipwreck's the perennial underdog

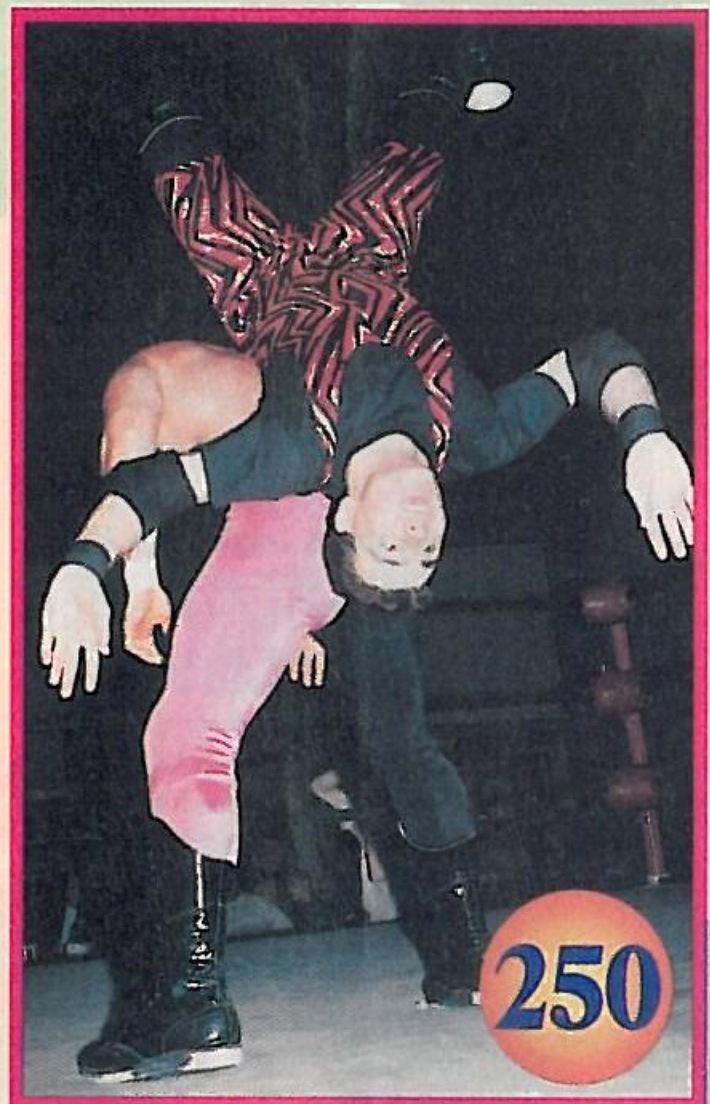
249 PERRO AGUAYO JR. (5'6", 175, 3, 250) This young AAA star made his debut in 1995 by saving his father, Perro Sr., from a brutal attack at TripleMania ... Currently one-half of the Mexican National tag champs with his dad ... They defeated Fuerza Guerrera and Mosco II in June ... A pure brawler who uses his dad's famous double-foot stomp to his opponent's stomach as his finisher ... Wrestles as a *technico*, but doesn't have much technical skill.



Putski's looking for a career lift in WCW

250 MIKE QUACKENBUSH (6', 191, 7, 350) "Lightning" Mike is making his presence felt in PCW, SCW, ECWA and a host of other promotions on the East Coast ... Held the PCW tag team title twice this year ... Defeated Reckless Youth and Christian York in a three-way dance for the SCW junior heavyweight title in July ... His feud with Reckless has spilled over into many other promotions ... Inventor of the double-springboard "Quackensmash" has added the skull-crushing "Quackendriver" to his list of signature moves.

251 GEORGE SOUTH (6'2", 235, 16, 248) Calls the North Carolina-based Pro Wrestling Federation his home ... Cunning veteran has a strange relationship with The Italian Stallion ... One month they're allies, the next month their violently feuding ... Has held every belt in PWF, including the heavyweight belt several times this past year.



"Lightning Mike" never strikes twice with the same move

252 ROCKIN' RICO (6', 220, 6, 344) Was sidelined with a kidney illness during part of the year, but has returned to action for the Hottest Stars of Wrestling Promotion in Puerto Rico, where he also serves as acting commissioner ... Has won several championships in the United States and Puerto Rico ... A Desert Storm veteran ... Can execute an amazing Frankenstein.

253 COLORADO KID (6'3", 235, 5, 247) The Music City North American champion ... Regained the belt in a 20-man battle royal after Mabel forfeited the title ... Then lost it to Recon and regained it again a week later ... One of the most popular wrestlers in MCW ... Has feuded with Terry Golden, Billy Joe Travis, and Trailer Park Trash ... Wolfie D recently attacked Colorado from behind with a hubcap, sparking another feud ... Has been using the claw lately ... Considered by some to be the top contender to NWA champion Dan Severn.

254 STEVEN DUNN (6'1", 230, 11, 265) Suffered a compound fracture of his right ankle, but returned to action recently ... Forced to vacate the Music City North American tag team title he held with Reno Riggins ... With Riggins, known as The Tennessee Volunteers ... Made his way north this year to compete in

Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling several times and was managed by Judd the Stud there ... Has experience in the WWF, Smoky Mountain, and the USWA.

255 AHMED JOHNSON (6'4", 305, 7, 53) This former WWF Intercontinental champion had a rough year ... After getting beaten up by The Nation of Domination, he injured his knee ... Eventually returned to the WWF only to get nowhere ... Left the WWF for the independents ... Has wrestled on only a few shows in recent months ... No one knows what the future holds for this power merchant.

256 BLACK WARRIOR (5'10", 195, 14) This masked *rudo* is a relative newcomer to EMLL ... Frequently teams with El Hijo del Santo ... Feuded with Shocker and Mr. Niebla all year ... Defeated Felino and Ultimo Dragon en route to the finals of the Salvador Lutteroth G tournament, but lost to Mr. Niebla in the final match. Has many impressive aerial maneuvers and is quite quick.

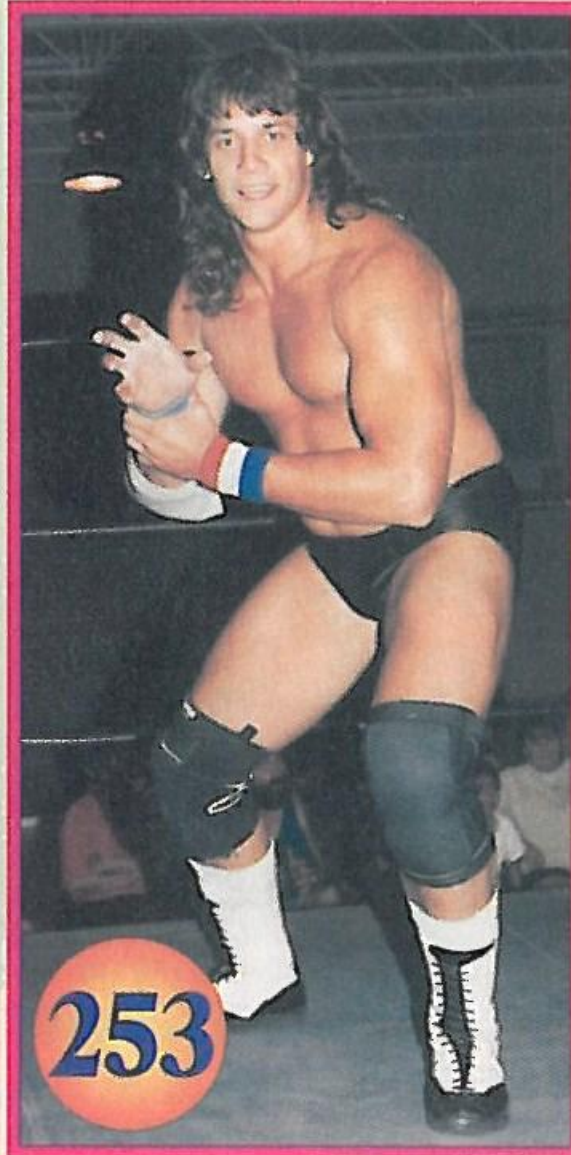
257 INVADER II (5'11", 214, 29, NL) A Puerto Rican legend ... Still has a very impressive physique for someone who has been wrestling for almost three full decades ... Has formed a team with Invader III and is feuding with Invader I ... Has held the WWC tag team and Alabama heavyweight titles ... His identity is the greatest mystery in Puerto Rican wrestling.

258 ITALIAN STALLION (6'3", 260, 15, 241) Still defending the Pro Wrestling Federation heavyweight belt against George South ... The two have swapped the belt between them several times this year ... Surprised fans by forming a team with South ... They even captured the PWF tag team title together ... Alliance didn't last, though, and the two are feuding again.

259 DON MONTOYA (6', 300, 3, 272) Despite his large frame, he is deceptively fast and can keep up with some of the junior heavyweights on the independent circuit ... A member of Little Italy with Jimmy Cicero and Cueball Carmichael in Steel City Wrestling ... Feuded with Julio Sanchez and Mike Quackenbush this year ... Also a member of the Nation of Immigration ... Has held several regional titles ... Has wrestled all over the eastern half of the country, going as far west as Michigan.

260 BOBBY DUNCUM JR. (6'6", 296, 6, 292) This second-generation wrestler often competes in ECW ... Wrestled extensively in Japan before arriving stateside and still returns to Japan from time to time ... Has also competed in Texas ... Often carries a bullrope with a cowbell to the ring.

261 VILLANO V (5'8", 215, 15, 225) The brother of Villano IV, his frequent tag team partner ... Wrestles for EMLL in Mexico and WCW ... Is virtually interchangeable with his brother ... Has held the UWA Trios, AAA Trios, UWA tag team, Mexican National Trios, and the



Colorado Kid's clawing his way to the top

UWA light heavyweight titles ... Currently holds the WWA tag team title with Villano IV.

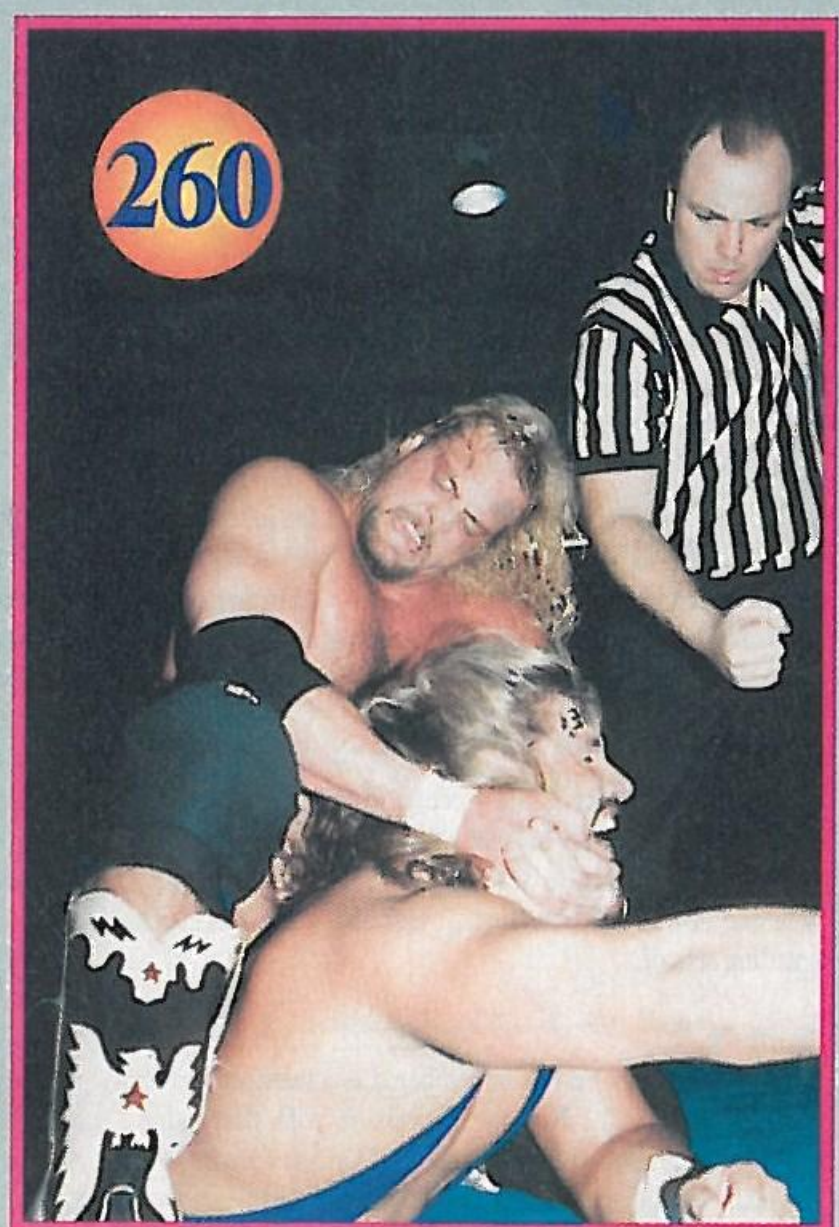
262 BUDDY LANDELL (6', 241, 17, 231) The other "Nature Boy" has been quite active in the newly expanded NWA ... Wins frequently for independents on the East Coast ... Has held several regional titles throughout his career ... Still uses the figure-four leglock as his finisher.

263 ERIC SBRACCIA (6'4", 235, 12, NL) This young veteran started wrestling at the age of 16 ... Has been a member of many Rumble's Brother's since the age of 14 ... Won the NWA New England heavyweight championship ... ICW tag team champion ... Apollo ... Feuded with Blackles Nelson ... Recently appeared in a dark match on a *Raw Is War* card.

264 MIKE ENOS (6'4", 252, 19, 208) This seasoned veteran is still active in WCW ... Although he is

not in contention for any titles, he is only a few steps away from it ... Best known for his AWA World tag team title reign with Wayne Bloom ... Also competes in the Midwest independents.

265 DISCOVERY (6'2", 190, 5, NL) Competed briefly in the WWF last year ... A member of *Los Cadetes de Espacio* in AAA ... This masked *technico* has a deep repertoire of aerial moves, including an Asai moonsault to the floor ... Feuded with *Los Vipers*, *Los Insectos*, and *Los Vatos Locos* this year.



Bobby Duncum Jr. puts the squeeze on Al Snow

266 LORD ZOLTAN (5'9", 230, 22, 227) Hails from Bourbon Street in New Orleans ... Enters the ring wearing ominous face paint ... One of wrestling's crazier characters ... Held numerous light heavyweight titles, including the American Commonwealth and Steel City belts ... Has feuded with T.C. Reynolds for many years ... Has perfected the art of distracting referees while he uses foreign objects and illegal tactics against his opponents.

267 CARLOS COLON (5'10", 225, 33, 212) This legend of Puerto Rican wrestling is still going strong ... Still regularly competes in the WWC, but not quite as often as before ... Tried to cut back his schedule last year, but found that he missed the ring too much ... Defeated Chicky Starr in a match in which the loser would have to leave the WWC for a year.

268 SHOCKER (5'7", 185, 3, NL) Currently holds the EMLL tag team title with Mr. Niebla ... Masked wrestler is one of EMLL's top young prospects ... Combines fine aerial skills with good technical skills ... Feuded with Dr. Wagner Jr. and Emilio Charles Jr. over the belts in the early part of the year ... Former NWA light heavyweight champion.

269 GIANT BABA (6'10", 297, 38, 207) Sixty-year-old veteran holds the distinction of being Japan's most decorated champion ... Has amassed more titles over the years than any other singles competitor ... Possesses some lethal chops ... Only competes on occasion in All-Japan Pro Wrestling, but he has no problem getting high-profile bouts ... Legacy in Japan is equalled only by that of his New Japan counterpart, Antonio Inoki, who retired this year.

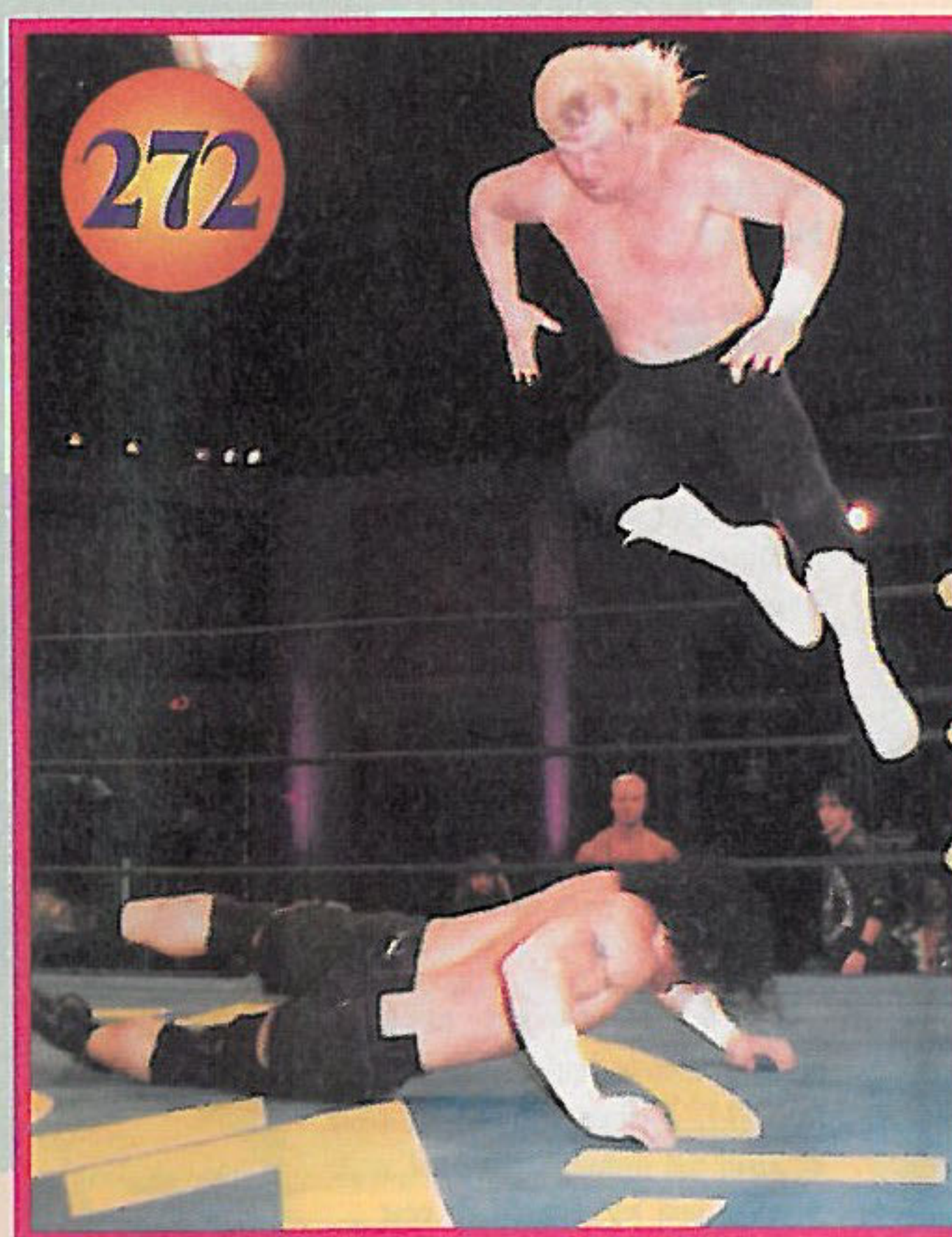


Valentine's still hammerin' out wins

270 GREG VALENTINE (6', 243, 27, 256) Can often be found travelling around the independent circuit ... Still in good shape, although he has lost a step ... Competed a few times in WCW recently ... Former NWA and WWF world tag team champion ... Has also started collecting indy titles ... His figure-four leglock is still effective.

271 BILL DUNDEE (5'7", 214, 24, 242) The father of J.C. Ice ... Low center of gravity makes him very tough to knock off his feet ... Resourceful and tough to defeat ... Competing in several Mid-South independents, including Power Pro Wrestling ... Has also opened his own wrestling school.

272 BOBBY EATON (6', 233, 22, 215) This veteran may best be remembered as a member of The Midnight Express ... No, not the version with Bart Gunn and Bob Holly, but with Stan Lane and Dennis Condrey ... Tag team specialist who was one of the best high-flyers of the 1980s ... Still competes in WCW periodically, but may never compete for the gold again.



Eaton's still a worthy foe

273 EL SALSERO (5'9", 180, 8, NL) This Promo Azteca wrestler thinks he's a Latino dancer and often dances the samba during matches ... Kind of like a Latin Disco Inferno, but with a championship belt ... The current WWA middleweight champ ... Lost his mask to Juventud Guerrera last year ... Feuded with Psicosis for most of this year ... Noted for his top-ropes dives and missile dropkicks ... Frequent partner of Super Parka.

274 BRIAN KNOBS (6'1", 295, 11, 151) A former member of The Nasty Boys with Jerry Sags ... In recent months, he has competed mostly on independent cards all along the East Coast, including Florida ... A former WWF and WCW world tag team champion with Sags ... More suited for tag team wrestling, but with Sags' future in doubt, it looks like he better adapt to singles wrestling fast.

275 SUPER BOY (5'5", 218, 8, NL) One of the last men to join Kaientai before they departed Michinoku Pro for the U.S. ... Small, stocky rulebreaker has some awe-inspiring aerial moves ... Regularly executes moonsaults to the floor ... Trained in the Lucha Libre style, he really shines in the quick-paced matches of Michinoku Pro ... Occasionally competes as "The Convict" ... Teamed with Chris Candido last year to face Tiger Mask IV and Gran Hamada ... Former WWA lightweight champ.

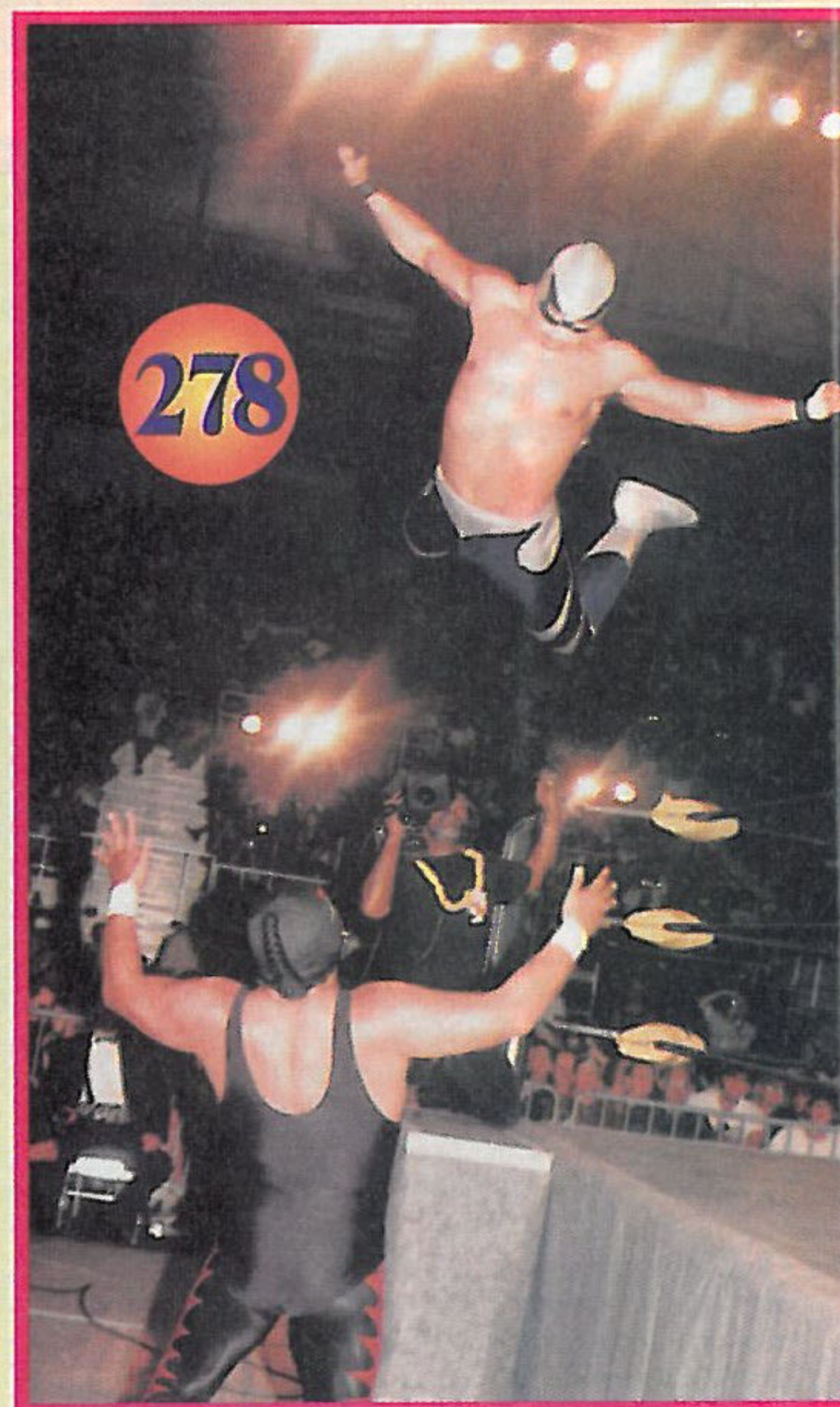
276 MARK SHRADER (5'10", 220, 5, 305) Known to fans all over the East Coast as "The Shark" ... Has held several regional light heavyweight titles and is popular with most indy fans ... Likes to compete against larger opponents and even holds a victory over Axl Rotten ... Competed in this year's ECWA Super 8 tournament, but was eliminated in the first round by eventual winner Lance Diamond ... Very agile and also a good technical wrestler.

277 K.C. THUNDER (6', 265, 9, 336) Feuding with "Iceman" Chris Cannon ... Managed by Count Grog ... Proclaimed himself the best dancer in Southern Championship Wrestling this past year ... Competes throughout the South and Midwest ... Once competed in the CCWA ... Has held the Great American Wrestling Federation and Southern States Wrestling titles ... Finisher is the bulldog.

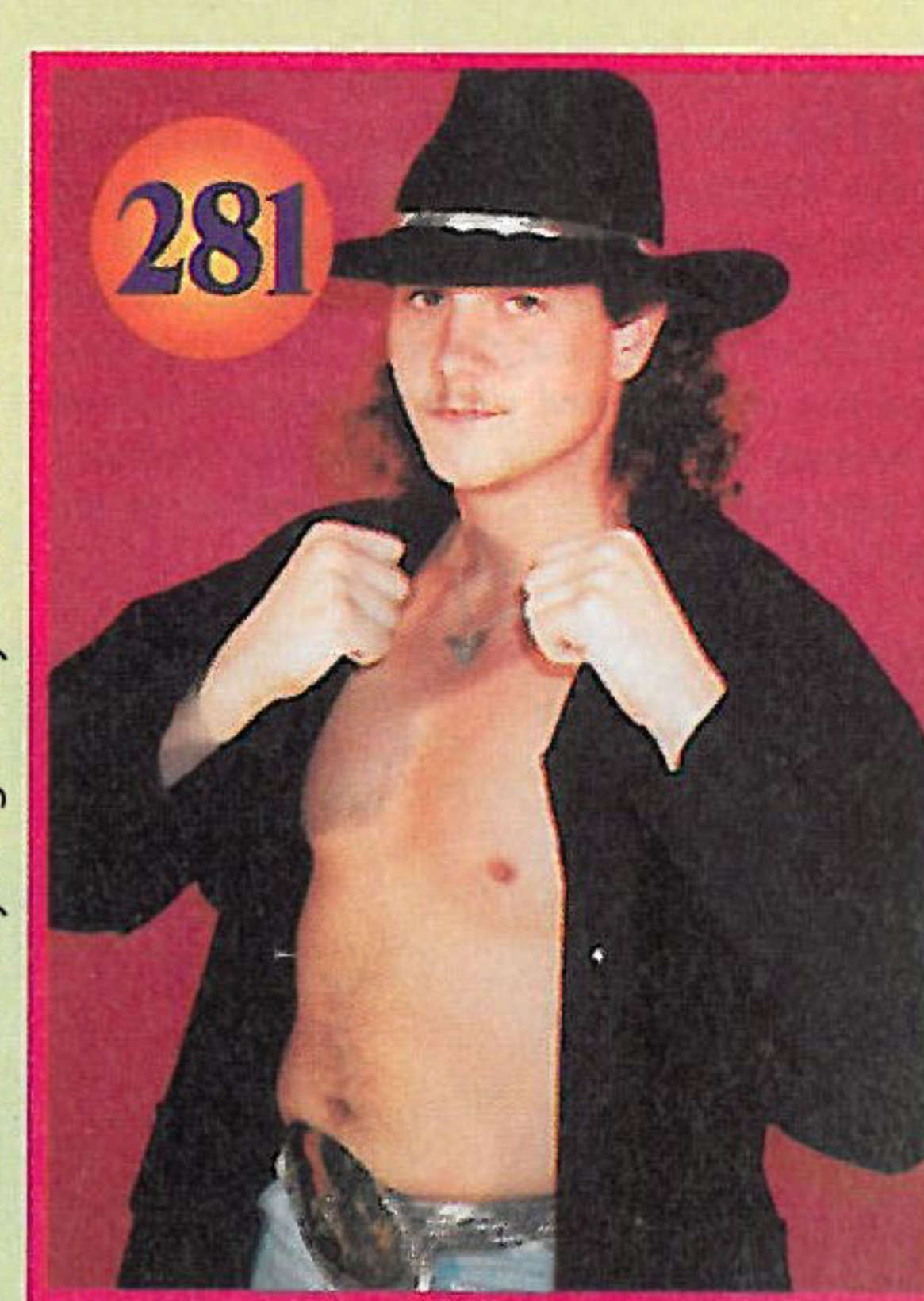
278 LIZMARK JR. (6'2", 235, 7, 141) Debuted in Promo Azteca after wrestling in EMLL ... This masked wrestler is the son of current EMLL star Lizmark Sr. ... Noted for his high-risk moves such as the Tiger Flying Space Drop ... Also uses the tope suicida, quebrada, and Asai moonsault during matches ... Feuded with El Dandy this year.

279 EDDIE GOLDEN (5'11", 220, 10, 235) Has wrestled great matches against Appalachian Mountain champion "Playboy" Bryan Wayne, Skyfire, Eight-Ball Jones, and David Jericho ... Teams with Jimmy Golden, his uncle ... Feuded briefly with Stan Lee before re-forming The Beautiful Blonds with him ... Loved in Tennessee, but hated everywhere else ... Has beaten Robert Gibson, Rick Morton, Jimmy Valiant, Tony Anthony, Tracey Smothers, Bobby Fulton, and Jackie Fulton.

280 CHRIS CHAVIS (6'1", 285, 8, 223) Best known for his stint as Tatanka in the WWF ... Still competes regularly on the independents ... Won the All-Star Wrestling South Africa title last year ... Makes frequent trips abroad, competing in South Africa, Lebanon, and England.



Lizmark Jr. soars in on Villano IV



Justice is batting .900

281 RICK JUSTICE (5'10", 225, 8, 309) Has won numerous singles titles throughout the South ... Once popular, he now upsets fans with his rulebreaking tactics ... Powerful for a man his size ... Very hot-tempered—it doesn't take much to provoke him ... Won 90 percent of his matches in 1997-98.

282 DAMIEN (5'8", 200, 16, 220) Long-time *rudo* who has competed in every major Mexican promotion ... Currently in Promo Azteca ... Has wrestled extensively in Japan for WAR ... Has also wrestled in Mexico under the name Ultraman 2000 ... Regular tag team partner of Ciclope (who competes as Halloween in Mexico) ... Noted for whacking his opponents with a Singapore cane during his matches ... Although known mostly as a brawler, he does use the tope suicida on occasion ... Former IWAS light heavyweight champ.

283 BEAU JAMES (5'10", 262, 8, 308) Consistent Southern States Wrestling star dropped a loser-leaves-town match to Ricky Harrison ... Now headed for Music City Wrestling ... Nicknamed "Handsome" Beau ... Claims to be "King Of The Southern Indys" because of his wins over top southern stars such as Jimmy Valiant, Rick Morton, Demolition Ax, Tommy Rogers, Bobby Fulton, and Tracey Smothers ... Broke into wrestling as a referee at age 15.

284 DAVE TAYLOR (6'3", 285, 5, 179) Now known as just plain Dave Taylor instead of Squire ... Apparently lost his English title when Lord Steven Regal left WCW ... A tough, arrogant brawler with little regard for the rules ... Made little impact this year and struggled to even reach mid-card status.

285 ERIN O'GRADY (5'9", 225, 10, NL) Recently signed a developmental contract with the WWF ... Known as "The Extreme Leprechaun" to All-Pro Wrestling fans ... During a Halloween falls-count-anywhere match, he hit "Vicious" Vic Grimes with his car, suplexed the 400-pounder onto the hood, then took the fight inside the ring ... A former APW Universal champion ... His finisher is the "Irish-canrana," which is similar to a tornado DDT, only he hooks his opponent's arms ... Had a short stay in ECW.

286 TIGER ALI SINGH (6'5", 290, 6, NL) The son of Tiger Jeet Singh ... Starting to make an impact in the WWF ... Toronto, Ontario, native ... Spent several years in Japan, where he won the Asian heavyweight title ... Crowned the "Son And Pride Of India" by Beant

Singh, the chief minister of India ... Has also competed in Canada ... Won the WWF's Kuwaiti Cup in 1997 ... A martial arts specialist who favors the flying bulldog ("Tiger bomb") as a finisher.

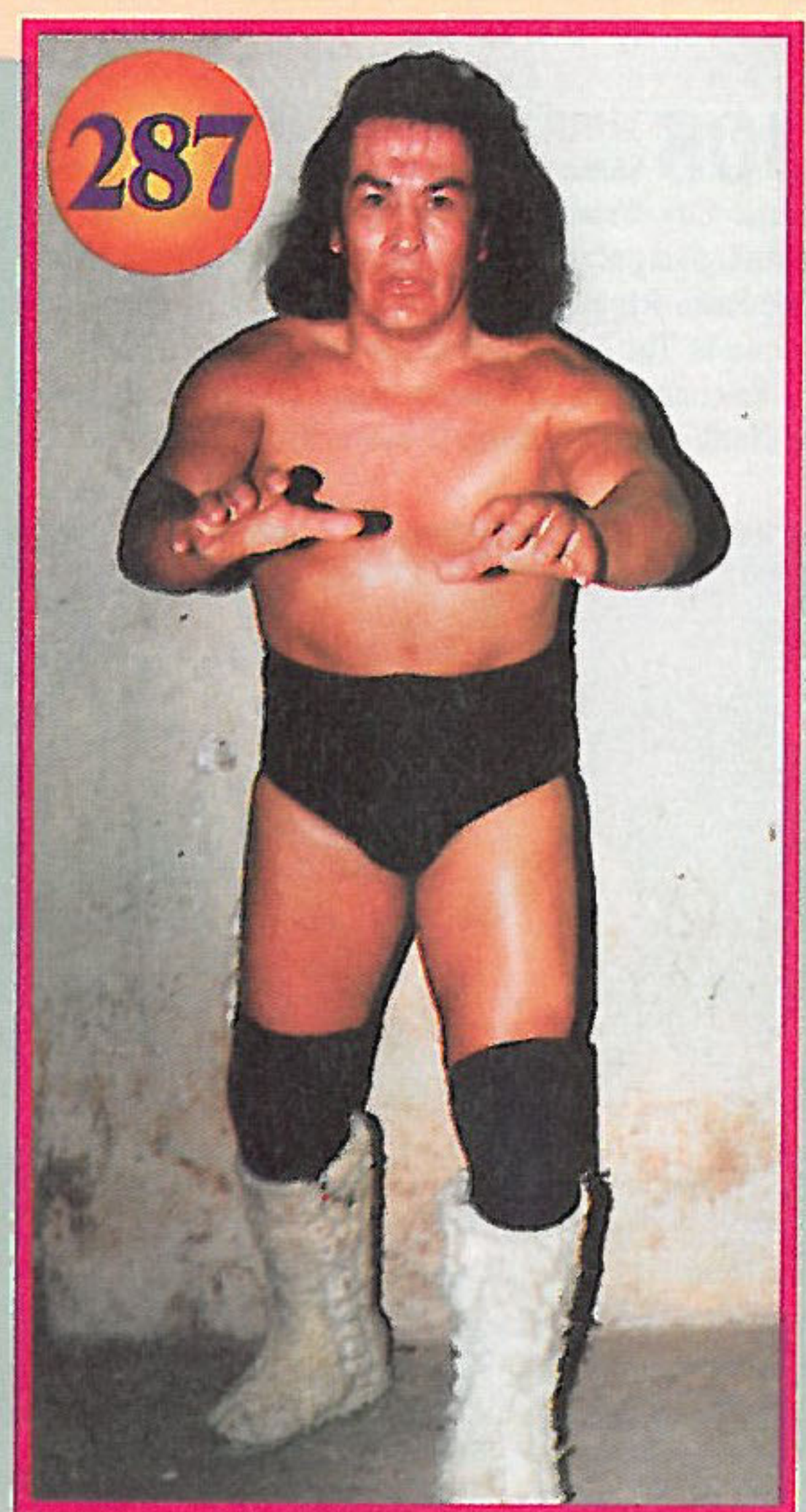
287 PERRO AGUAYO SR. (5'10", 215, 29, 67) Teams with son Perro Aguayo Jr. in AAA ... Known for the double-foot stomp to the stomach of his opponents ... He and his son feuded with El Cobarde and El Cobarde Jr. this year ... Made famous the running Thesz press from the ring apron onto his opponent on the arena floor ... Veteran is a respected *technico*.

288 BRAD ARMSTRONG (6', 226, 17, 288) Veteran wrestler from a famous wrestling family ... Wrestles occasionally in the Southern independents ... Also wrestles in WCW, where he's stuck in the mid-card range ... Former NWA National champion ... Has held numerous regional titles.

289 DUTCH MANTEL (5'11", 224, 25, 187) "Dirty" Dutch is still going strong in Power Pro Wrestling ... Also wrestles occasionally for several other Southern independents ... Has wrestled for WWF, WWC, and the NWA ... Has held several regional titles throughout his career, as well as the NWA National tag team title.

290 UNIVERSO DOS MIL (6'1", 225, 13, NL) Teams with Mascara Ano Dos Mil in EMLL ... He and Mascara feuded with Shocker and Mr. Niebla this year ... In singles competition, he feuded with Atlantis ... A top contender to the heavyweight title.

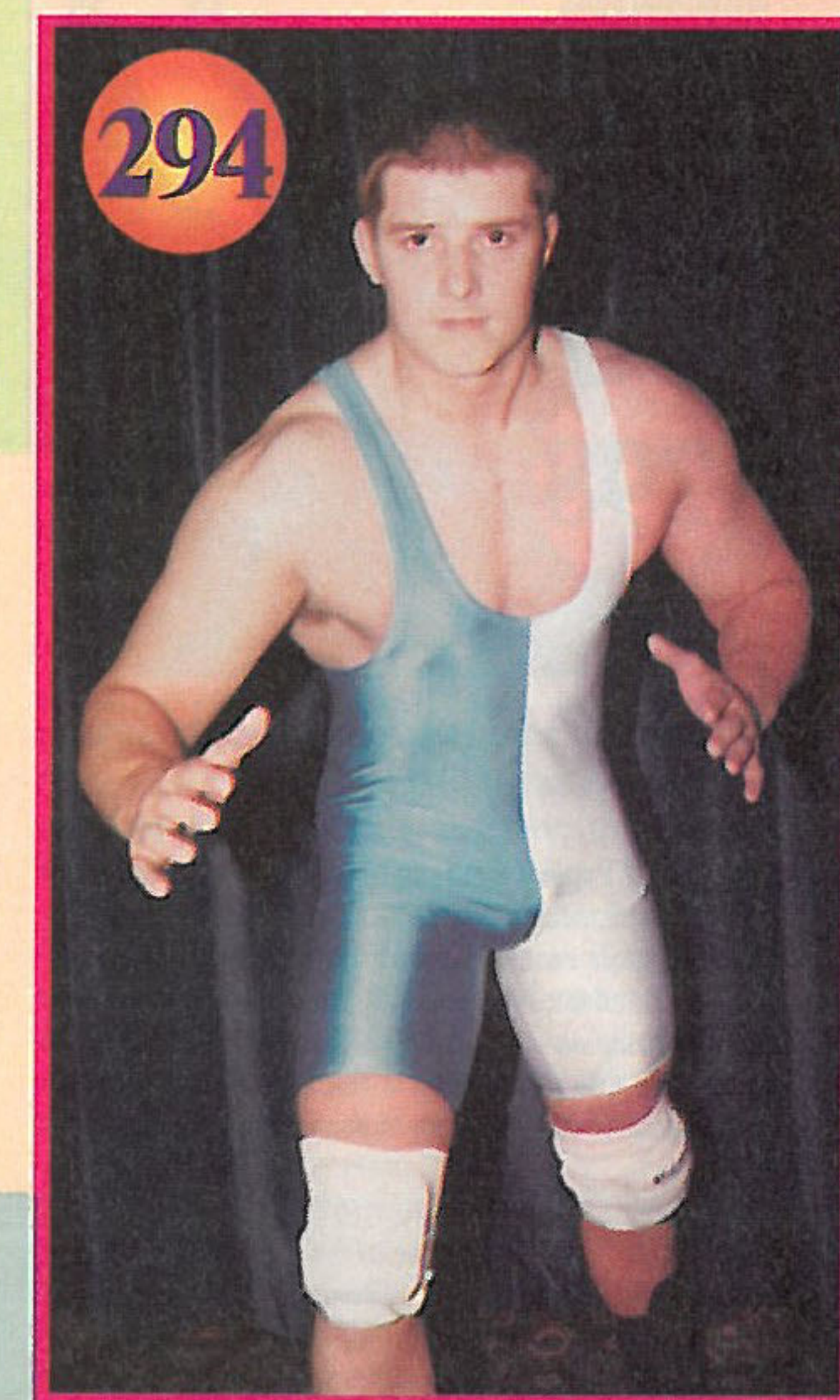
291 MAJOR DeBEERS (5'11", 287, 20, 313) Currently feuding with Jimmy Valiant and "Iceman" Chris Cannon ... Managed by Count Grog ... A mentor to Otto Schwanz ... Competes in Southern Championship Wrestling, but sometimes wrestles in Southern States Wrestling, England, Germany, Australia, and Japan ... Competed in the WWF, NWA, AWA, and



Aguayo Sr.'s a 29-year veteran

Mid-South using various identities ... South African is a former European super heavyweight champion.

292 TWIGGY RAMIREZ (5'8", 219, 3, 283) This eccentric wrestler has really made a name for himself this past year—and not just for his wrestling ability, either ... Often wears makeup, fishnet stockings, and other bizarre items in the ring ... Don't let this fool you, though, because he's a tough competitor ... Often has manager Madonna Wayne Gacy—er, Lewinsky—at his side ... Has held several regional tag team titles, but is now concentrating on a singles career ... Competes in several Northeast independents.



Steele is a submission specialist

293 DINO SCARLO (5'7", 200, 21, NL) Entered Great Britain's Hammerlock Wrestling this year ... Suffered multiple injuries this year, including lateral ligament tears in both legs ... Often teams with "Sledgehammer" Andre Baker ... Feuding with Dean Champion and Tyrone Archer ... The East London native has also competed in Spain and the United States ... Started wrestling at age 16 ... Experienced in judo and plays rugby.

294 GARY STEELE (6'3", 248, 2, NL) Voted the most popular wrestler in Great Britain's Hammerlock Wrestling ... Recently teamed with Jake "The Snake" Roberts ... Engaged in a series of strap matches with Guy Thunder ... A former Southern U.K. heavyweight champion ... Submission wrestling is his forte, although he's well-versed in full-contact karate ... His leglock finisher is called the "Steele lock."

295 SCOTT D'AMORE (5'11", 230, 7, 236) Current Border City Can-Am champ ... Has cut back on his wrestling schedule to play college football ... Now splits his time between the Canadian independents and classes and football at the University of Windsor ... An excellent long-snapper ... Quite a local celebrity in Windsor, Ontario ... Has wrestled in WCW, WWF, Europe, and Japan ... Well-versed in the art of submission wrestling.

A young Tracey Lawrence?



T. Rantula's style bugs his opponents

296 RAY ODYSSEY (5'10", 225, 12, 243) Popular figure in several Northeast independents ... Nicknamed "Surfer" ... Carries his surfboard to the ring before each of his matches ... Recently defeated Johnny Handsome to become the NEW light heavyweight champion ... Beat Tiger Khan earlier in the night to earn the title shot ... Ray's dropkick off the top rope has spelled the end for many opponents over the years.

297 JIMMY SNUKA (6', 260, 29, 266) The "Superfly" is one of the legends of wrestling ... Credited with *The Daily Show's* 1996 Quote of the Year ... Feud with The Metal Maniac finally ended this year ... Still uses the "Superfly" splash from the top rope ... Has wrestled extensively in the WWF and is now winding down his career on the independent scene.

298 T. RANTULA (6'5", 310, 1, 229) Competes primarily for independents in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio ... Has held several regional titles, including Steel City Wrestling and American Commonwealth heavyweight titles ... Has also appeared in both WCW and the WWF, but hasn't had any success ... Big, brawling competitor.

299 HERBERT GONZALEZ (5'11", 230, 16, NL) Returned to the WWC after competing for several years in the Hottest Stars of Wrestling, where he held the Puerto Rican tag team championship with Super Fly ... Learned a lot while in HSW ... Has a great rapport with fans, most of whom really seem to admire him.

301 GEORGE STEELE (6'2", 261, 38, NL) This veteran competitor returned to active competition on the independent circuit last year

... Despite being around for almost four decades, this is his first appearance in the "PWI 500" ... Approaches every match the same: He'll slobber on his opponent while trying to lock on the flying hammerlock ... Still has an affinity for turnbuckles ... Held the Grande Wrestling Alliance heavyweight title, which he won from "Big" Bob Steele (no relation).

302 FRANK PARKER (6'3", 265, 5, 346) He and partner Roger Anderson wrestled LOD 2000 to a double-countout on *Shotgun Saturday Night* this year ... He and Anderson are known as Death & Destruction ... Competes in Southern Championship Wrestling and other southeastern independents ... Managed by Count Grog ... Has wrestled in the USWA ... Has held the Classic Wrestling Association and Bluegrass titles.

303 TERRY GOLDEN (6', 240, 4, 264) The Music City Wrestling Southern champion ... A former MCW North American champion ... Defeated Colorado Kid to win the belt, but lost the title to Wolfie D several months ... Has feuded with Colorado on-and-off for two years ... Even placed a \$5,000 bounty on Colorado's head ... Hails from Memphis ... Once managed by Princess Dee (Debbie Combs).

304 PIRATA MORGAN (5'8", 235, 19, NL) Veteran competitor is now in Promo Azteca ... Once again the heavyweight champion ... Defeated Konnan to win the belt ... Has traded the belt with Konnan several times this year.

305 THRILLBILLY (6'2", 304, 2, 298) With Shane Eden, upset The Centerfolds for the Music City Wrestling North American tag team title on Thanksgiving night ... They lost the belts to Steven Dunn and Reno Riggins several months later ... Formerly known as The Scufflin' Hillbilly and The Disco Hillbilly ... Entertains fans by dancing before matches ... Trained by North American champ Colorado Kid.



Steele munches on Steele

306 VIC GRIMES (6'1", 398, 1, NL) During a recent non-title match, Grimes sandwiched All-Pro Wrestling Universal champion Maxx Justice between two tables and jumped through both tables ... Justice moved just in time ... In another match, he laid Vinny Massaro on top a car, climbed a 15-foot high electrical box, and executed a front somersault into an elbowsmash ... "The Master Of West Coast Violence" has been signed to a developmental contract by the WWF.



They don't come more "Viculous" than Grimes

307 CHRIS POWERS (6', 260, 18, 345) His hot feud with Tony Anthony is raging throughout the South ... Has held several heavyweight titles in the region ... Won 95 percent of his matches in 1997-98 ... Nickname is "The Crippler" ... Extremely powerful rulebreaker.

308 ROBERT GIBSON (5'11", 225, 21, 262) This rock 'n' roller has slowed down a bit in recent years ... Made another run at fame when he and Rock 'n' Roll Express partner Rick Morton entered the WWF as a part of the NWA contingent ... Held the NWA tag team belts, but didn't get much of a chance to win the WWF World tag title ... Now content with wrestling on independent shows in the Deep South and training students at his wrestling school.

309 JUSTIN RICHARDS (5'10", 196, 3, NL) "The Extremist" prides himself on injuring other competitors in Great Britain's Hammerlock Wrestling ... Won an eight-man "knockout" tournament in Gillingham, Kent, on May 31 ... Teams with "Sledgehammer" Andre Baker and Adam "Muscles" Mansfield ... Feuding with Alex Shane and Dean Champion ... Has held the London pro and English amateur titles.

310 IAN ROTTEN (6', 302, 8, 181) Is a master of unusual specialty matches ... Often competes in barbed-wire contests or matches in which his hands are wrapped with tape and covered with broken glass ... Competes mostly in the IWA in Kentucky ... Still feuding with Doug Gilbert.



Master Mayhem hasn't been pinned in three years

311 MUSTAFA SAED (6'1", 244, 7, 185) This former Gangsta high-tailed it out of ECW this year, leaving former partner New Jack to fend for himself ... Showed up on several independent cards in the Mid-Atlantic region as well as the West Coast ... Has yet to add any technical skills to his repertoire and instead relies solely upon brawling and weapons to win matches.

312 KENNY ARDEN (6', 310, 11, 269) Feuding with his brother Keith, who wrestles under the name Frenchy Riviera ... Lost a match to Riviera that stipulated the loser would have to enroll in Jenny Craig's weight-loss program ... Now calls himself "Skinny" Kenny ... Has competed in Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee ... He and his brother John were known as The Centerfolds and were managed by Paul Adams.

313 INVADER III (5'7", 230, 28, NL) Returned to WWC in Puerto Rico after being inactive for more than four years ... Immediately began feuding with Invader II upon his return ... Former WWC tag team champion and junior heavyweight champ.

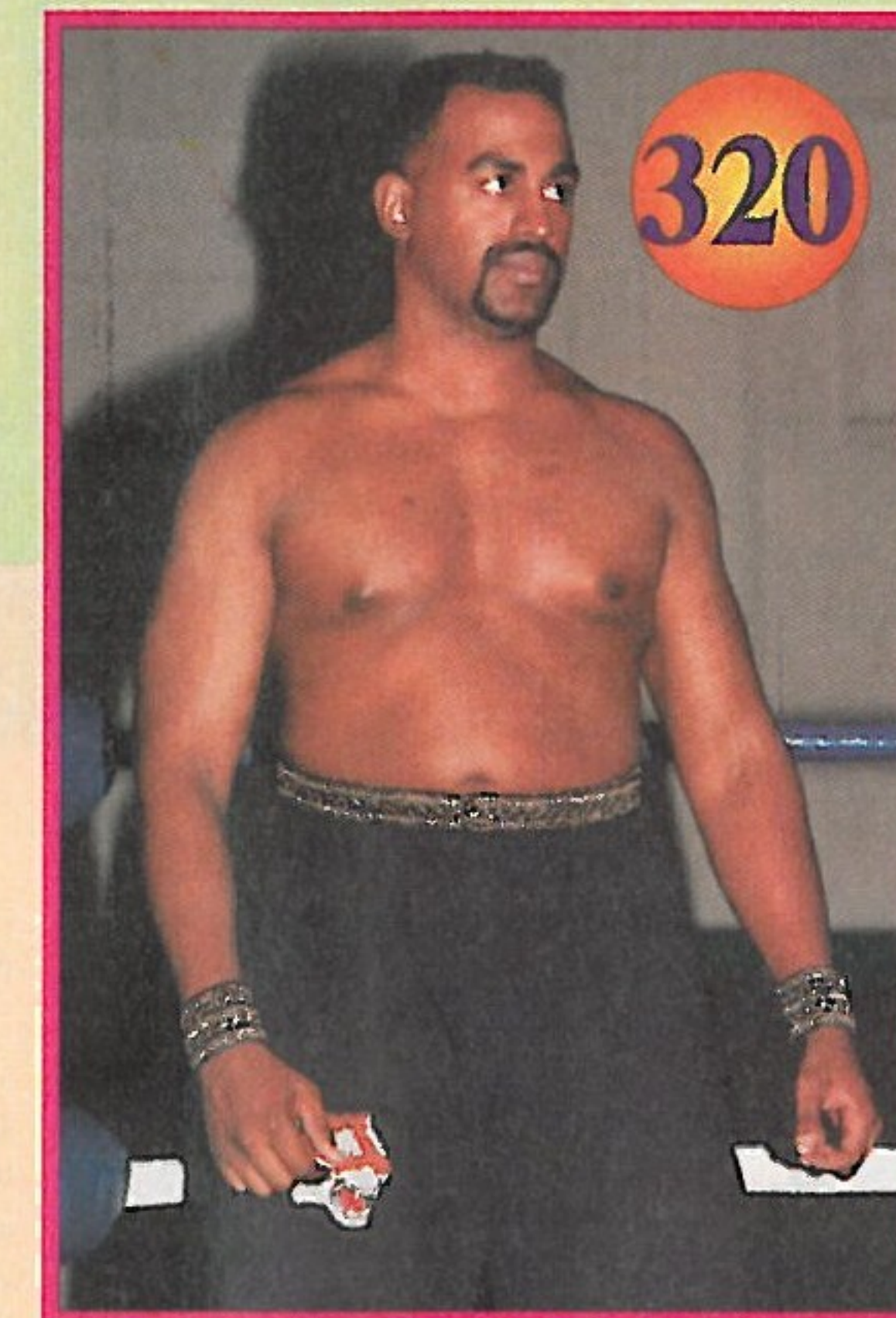
314 BORIS DRAGOFF (6'1", 250, 4, 353) Defeated K.C. Thunder for the North Carolina State title this year ... Feuding with Chris Stephenson and Major DeBeers ... Managed by Count Grog ... Competes in various Southern independents, including Southern Championship Wrestling and the Great American Wrestling Federation ... Has held the SCW and ACW titles ... Signature move is the Russian guillotine.

315 HEADHUNTER I (5'11", 440, 6, 286) This large man is very agile for his size and has several aerial moves in his repertoire ... Other than that, he's a pure brawler who thrives on spilling blood ... His brother, Headhunter II, is his regular tag team partner ... Wrestles mostly in Japan and Mexico.

316 TULLY BLANCHARD (5'10", 235, 20, NL) Another veteran wrestler making his return to active competition ... Recently defeated Buddy Landell to win the New Dimension Wrestling heavyweight title ... Best known as a founding member of The Four Horsemen ... Has held many titles during his illustrious career, including the world tag team belts in both the NWA/WCW and the WWF, and the NWA TV and National heavyweight belts.

317 MASTER MAYHEM (6'11", 292, 3, 352) The Outlaw Wrestling champion ... Can tackle several men at once ... Claims that he has never been pinned cleanly ... The masked man is likened to Darth Vader because of his leather outfits ... Kids seem to love him.

318 VENOM (6'3", 277, 4, 447) Has held the New Frontier, National Championship Wrestling, and Championship Wrestling Federation titles ... Occasionally wrestles in the WWF ... His primary finishers are the "V-Bomb" and the "Running Driver II" ... Canada native.



Khan is a mysterious pro

319 CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (6', 240, 4, 327) Rugged rulebreaker has competed for numerous East Coast independent promotions during the last year ... Trained by Axl Rotten ... Has both teamed and feuded with Rotten in the past ... Several federations have threatened him with heavy fines and possible sus-



The Headhunters both employ the same smash-mouth brawling tactics

pensions ... Feuding with another wrestler also known as Corporal Punishment in Int'l Pro Wrestling.

320 TIGER KHAN (5'11", 235, 4, 434) Mysterious rulebreaker hails from Calcutta, India ... Competes primarily in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling and the NWA ... Skilled in technical wrestling ... Held the PCW heavyweight title for several months ... Briefly managed by Judd the Stud, but would rather be on his own.

321 FRENCHY RIVIERA (6', 439, 5, 289) Lost a hair vs. hair match to The Colorado Kid in December and was humiliated when Colorado shaved his head in the middle of the ring ... Was hated by the fans when he was managed by Paul Adams ... Recently turned fan favorite and held the Music City North American tag team title with Shane Eden for several months ... Formerly known as Keith Arden ... Now feuding with his brother Kenny.

322 HEADHUNTER II (5'11", 390, 6, 296) The carbon copy of his brother, Headhunter I ... Mostly competes in Japan, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic ... Has very little wrestling skill—except for his arsenal of high-flying moves ... Picture Abdullah the Butcher doing a tope ... Scary, isn't it? ... Now picture him doing that with a fork in his hand ... Even scarier.

323 THUNDER (6'1", 255, 11, 347) A perennial fan favorite in Northeast independents ... Teamed with J.R. Ryder to win the Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling tag team title this year ... Also very popular in ECWA ... Toured South Africa earlier this year.

324 DEMOLITION AX (6'2", 303, 11, 275) This former WWF World tag team champ can be found on the independent circuit ... Wrestles all over the United States ... Still holds the IAW tag team title with Typhoon ... A tag team specialist who can adapt his style to fit any team.

325 SGT. CRAIG PITTMAN (6'2", 270, 3, 261) It's been a tough year for the former WCW standout ... Left WCW to ply his trade in the Mid-Atlantic independents ... "Code Red" armbars submission finisher is still deadly ... Has found moderate success in the indys.

326 RICK DEEZEL (6'1", 214, 11, 331) Feuding with Sgt. Craig Pittman in the American Independent Wrestling Federation ... Once again the most hated man in the promotion ... Rejoined The Family, which is terrorizing the entire AIWF ... Other members include Daniel Mayes, Brian Danzig, Easy Rider, and Judge Law ... Teams frequently with Mayes ... A former AIWF champion.

327 PIT BULL II (6'2", 238, 8, 76) Powerful competitor who knows how to use his strength ... Formerly in ECW, where he and Pit Bull I held the tag team titles and he won the TV belt ... Now a part of a group of former ECW wrestlers invading NWA Championship Wrestling America with Tod Gordon and several others ... Also competes in several New Jersey independents.

328 STAN LEE (6'1", 242, 8, NL) Has re-ignited old feuds with Jimmy Valiant, Skyfire, and The Artists Formerly Known As The Young Guns ... Competes in Appalachian Mountain Wrestling and USA Main Event Wrestling ... He and Eddie Golden, after a brief rift, have reforme The Beautiful Blonds ... Nicknamed "Pretty Boy" ... Wears glittering robes ... Has won many titles throughout the South.

also held the NWA Southern, Classic Wrestling Association, and Mid-Atlantic titles ... Competes in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and New York ... His favorite hold is the "Texas Cloverleaf."

332 ICEMAN (6', 201, 4, 307) Won the Northern Championship Wrestling Quebec championship for a third time at Challengemania 6 in June in Joliette, Quebec ... Still the most popular wrestler in NCW ... Deeply affected by the absence of now-retired mentor Frank Blues ... Has also competed in Ontario.

333 TOMMY RICH (6', 248, 21, 204) Divides his time between ECW and the Southern independents ... Is one-third of the Full-Blooded Italians, but spends more time advising Little Guido and Tracey Smothers than he does teaming with them ... That doesn't mean "The Big Don" doesn't get involved in the matches, though ... Still hasn't proved that he's really Italian.

334 TONY RUMBLE (6'4", 250, 14, 335) The leader, founder, and president of The Brotherhood in NWA New England ... Claims to hail from the "Combat Zone" of Massachusetts ... Former NWA New England champ ... Has competed all over the East Coast ... Uses the Boston crab as his finisher.

335 ANDRE BAKER (5'8", 238, 18, NL) Put arch-enemy Doug Williams on the injury list for two months this year ... Competes in Great Britain's Hammerlock Wrestling ... Has also wrestled in the Persian Gulf and in Nevada, New York, and New Jersey ... Recently suffered a back injury ... A former silver medalist in the U.K. Judo championship and a holder of five black belts in the martial arts ... Nicknamed "Sledgehammer."

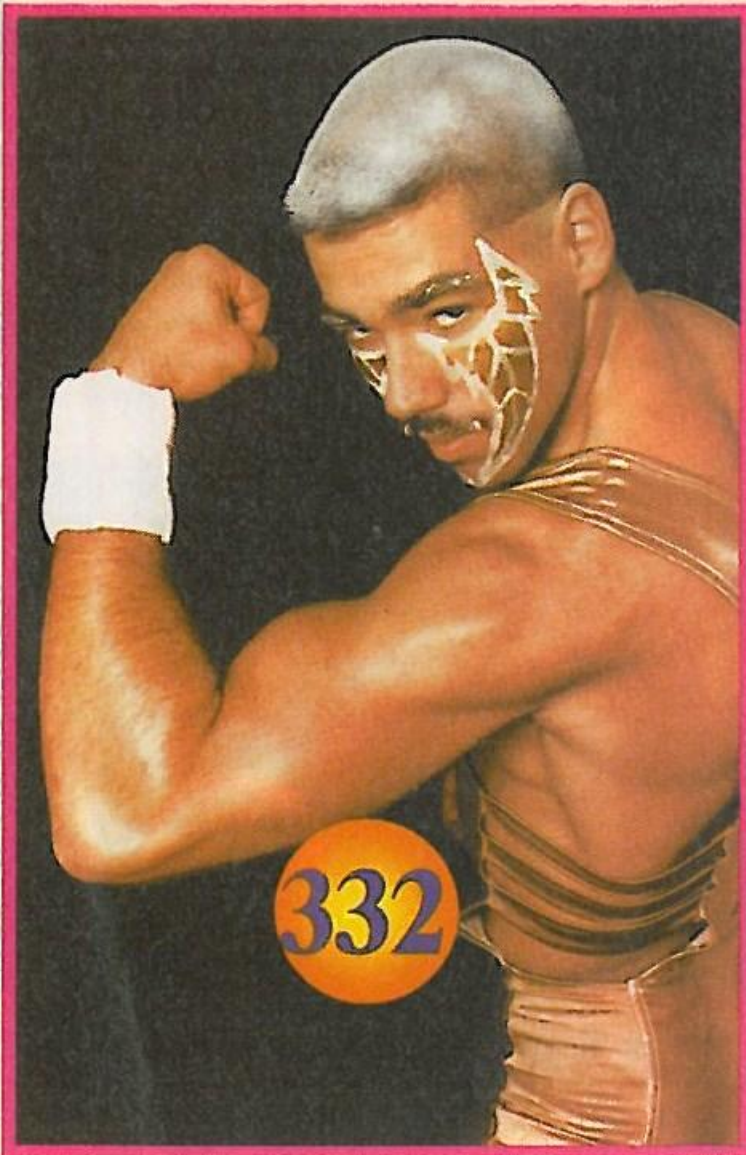
336 MABEL (6'10", 503, 6, 300) Briefly returned to the WWF in June, only to find that he was better off in the Tennessee independents ... Doesn't seem interested in settling down in any one promotion ... Has lost much of his agility and has become a lumbering giant ... Held several regional titles, including the USWA Southern title and the WWC Universal title.

337 INFERNO KID (6'3", 235, 4, 249) Returned from a torn ACL to win the Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling tag team title with Mike Quackenbush ... Also made his

return to the ECWA at the Super 8 tournament, where he started feuding with Lance Diamond ... Strong fan favorite ... Slowly starting to use his high-flying skills to maximum advantage again ... Also competes in NWA Championship Wrestling America.

338 JOHNNY SWINGER (5'10", 228, 5, 310) Hasn't made much progress in WCW ... Still finds himself toward the bottom of the mid-card range ... Competes in Border City Wrestling when he's not struggling with an opponent on WCW *Saturday Night* ... Much too cocky for his own good.

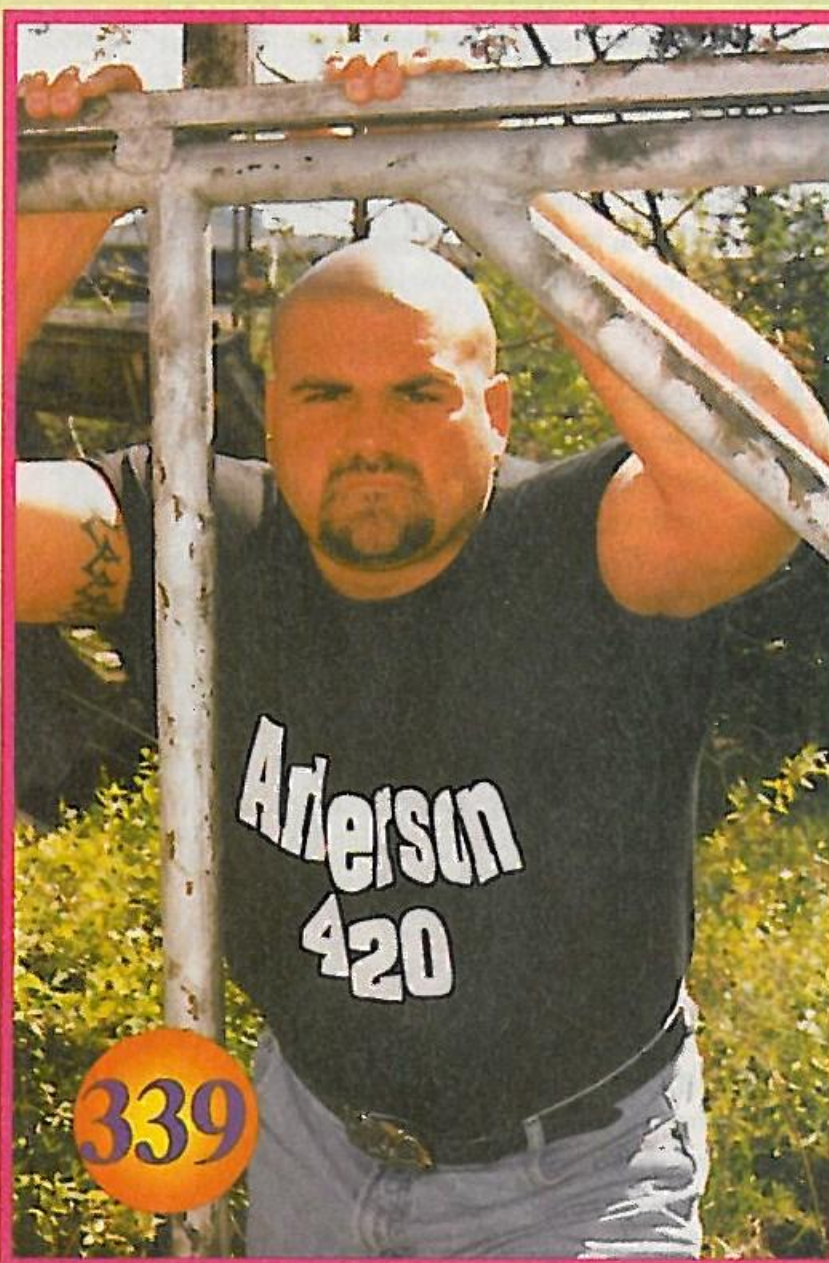
339 JEFF ANDERSON (6'1", 250, 16, 360) Defeated Jimmy Golden in a "guitar pole" match for the Tennessee Mountain title ... Put together an impressive winning streak



The Iceman's a cool customer

this year ... His loud mouth gets him in trouble ... Nicknamed "Wildman" ... Hated by fans in Tennessee.

340 TITO SANTANA (6'1", 245, 23, 200) This former WWF Intercontinental champ is now traveling through the independents ... Sometimes does color commentary as part of the WWF's Spanish broadcasting team ... Regularly competes in Championship Pro Wrestling, New Breed Wrestling, and the World Wide Wrestling Alliance ... Still uses the flying forearm smash as his finisher.



Maybe Anderson will wear 339 from now on

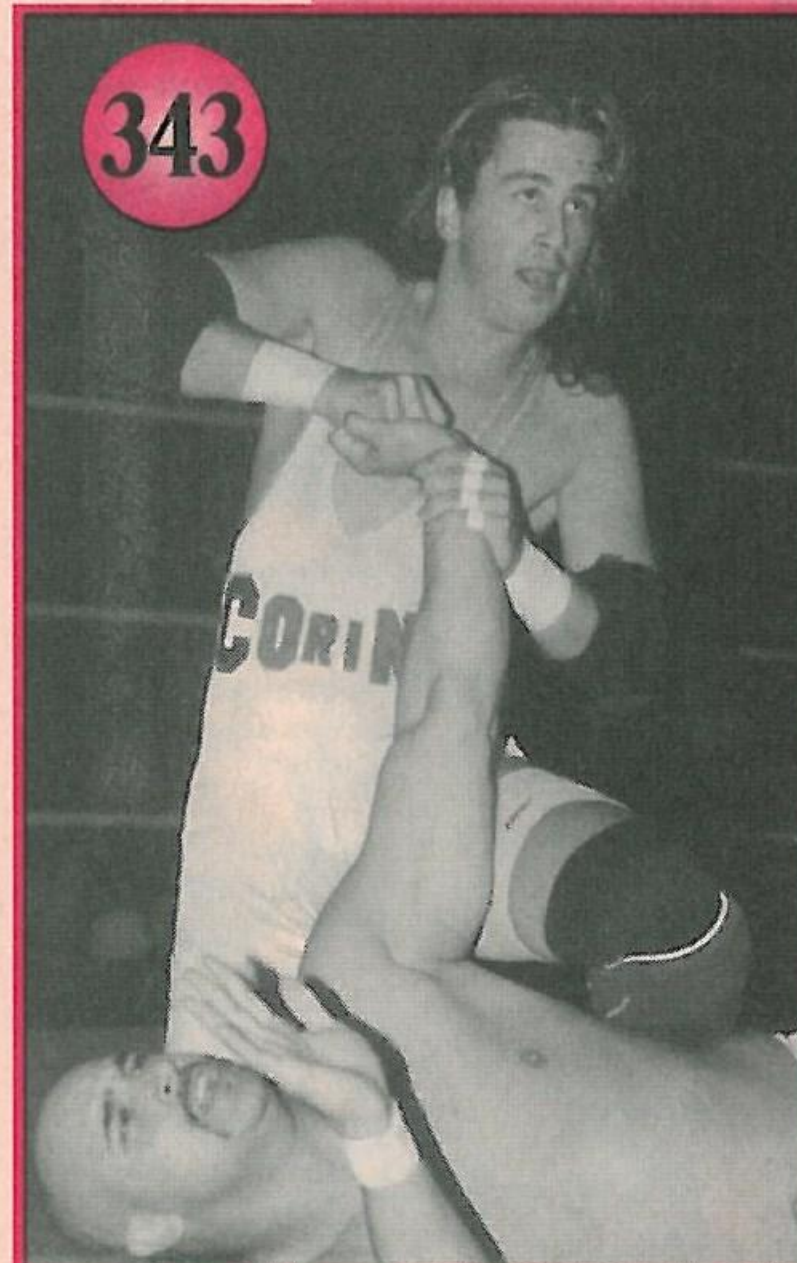
341 SCOOT ANDREWS (5'9", 235, 5, NL) Considered one of the best light heavyweights in Florida ... Competes in Florida Championship Wrestling and other local independents ... Nickname is the "Black Nature Boy" ... Can wrestle scientifically or brawl.

342 VIC STEAMBOAT (6'1", 243, 12, 216) Currently reigning as the NWA New England (formerly CWA) TV champion ... Has also held the CWA heavyweight and TV titles ... Was a CWA tag team champ with Ray Odyssey, too ... Often asked by fans about his older brother, Rick Steamboat ... His flying cross-bodyblock is still a great finisher ... Honolulu native.

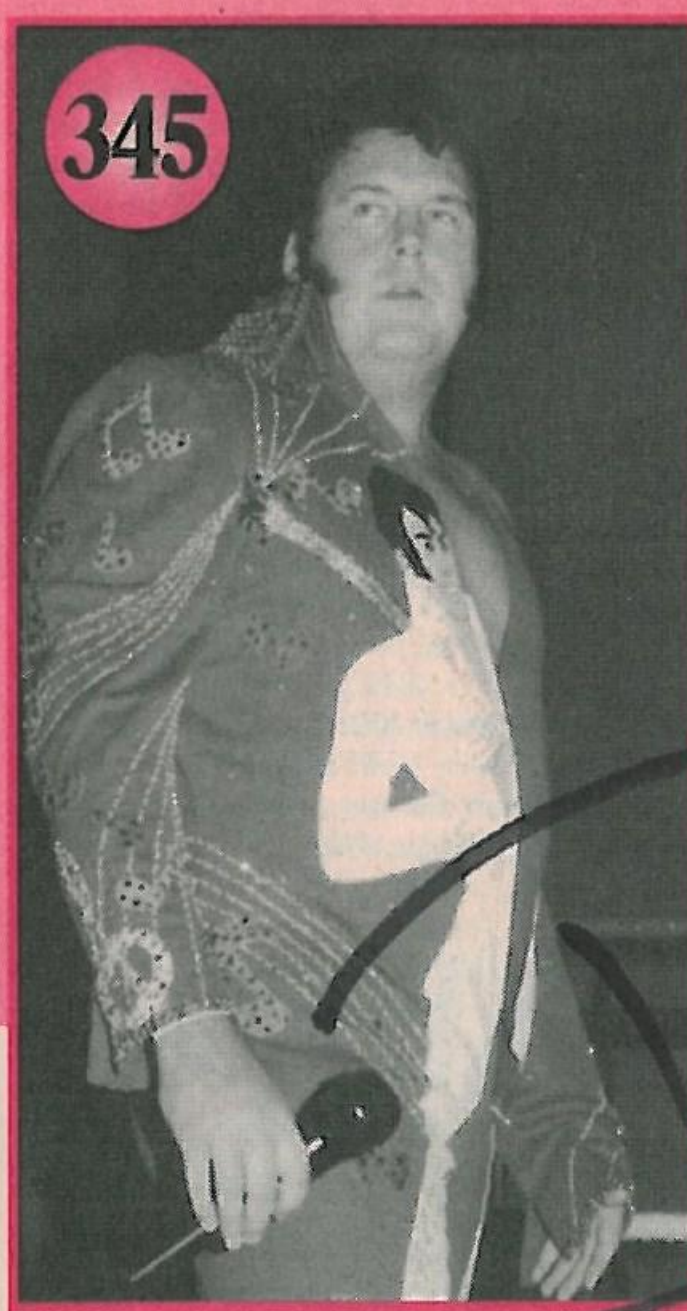
343 STEVE CORINO (6'1", 213, 4, 348) This young aerialist has held several regional titles in the East Coast independents ... Has held the NWA light heavyweight and is a former MEWF tag team champ ... Has formed a team with Lance Diamond in NWA Championship Wrestling America ... Regularly appears in the WWF, but hasn't had much success.

344 STEVE RICHARDS (6'2", 227, 6, 66) Left Raven behind in WCW ... Retired to visit Italy and begin a video game business ... Returned to ECW for a brief period ... Underwent surgery this year to repair damage incurred when he broke his neck ... Returned to Steel City Wrestling after a six-month absence on May 1 ... Helped "Beef Stew" Lou Marconi win the Steel City title from Tom Brandi ... Defeated Frank Stalletto in his return to competition on May 22 ... Now part of the group of ex-ECW stars invading NWA Championship Wrestling America.

345 HONKY TONK MAN (6'1", 256, 19, NL) This veteran competitor has been very active in the independents ... Has had several stints in the WWF, the last as the manager of Billy "Rockabilly" Gunn ... Still claims to be better-looking than Elvis ever was ... Longest-reigning WWF Intercontinental champion, and he will remind you of that during every one of his interviews ... Last ranked in the 1995 "PWI 500" (196th).



Corino bends Jimmy Cicero's wrist



HTM is still singing his own praises

346 J.T. COLEMINER (6'1", 225, 4, NL) Southern fans have been cheering him since he turned fan favorite ... Along with Chaos, has won many tag team titles in the South ... 1999 may be his breakout year ... Often compared to fellow southern cruiserweight Rick Justice ... Has difficulty with opponents weighing more than 250 pounds.

347 RENEGADE (5'10", 256, 4, 295) Young, musclebound Ultimate Warrior lookalike has become a blip on the WCW screen ... Steadily made his way to the basement of the WCW ratings ... Let's hope he's using his spare time to train at the Power Plant ... In desperate need of an upset against a major star.

348 J.B. DESTINY (5'11", 192, 9, 379) Regular competitor in Pro Wrestling Xpress ... Young, mysterious high-flyer is also pursuing a career in cinematography ... Has held the PWX tag team title with Dennis Gregory ... Twin brother also wrestles.

349 MR. OOH LA LA (5'10", 230, 8, 395) It's been a pretty good year for this hated Parisian ... Held his own in several matches against the legendary George "The Animal" Steele ... Read that as he got through the match with his body intact ... Has matured and improved, although he still can't get his pants off without falling ... Managed by Barry Casino in the ECWA and Joe Rules in PCW ... His striptease routine has to be seen to be believed.

350 TONY DEVITO (5'11", 245, 12, 322) The top contender to the New Breed Wrestling U.S. title, which is held by John Diamond ... Managed by Kenny Casanova ... Nicknamed "Terminator" ... Wrestles occasionally in the WWF ... His finisher is a moonsault called the "Splash Mountain Power Bomb" ... Tito Santana and Mahoney have felt its effects ... Prefers weapons matches and has the scars to prove it ... A former NBW tag champ with Steve Corino.

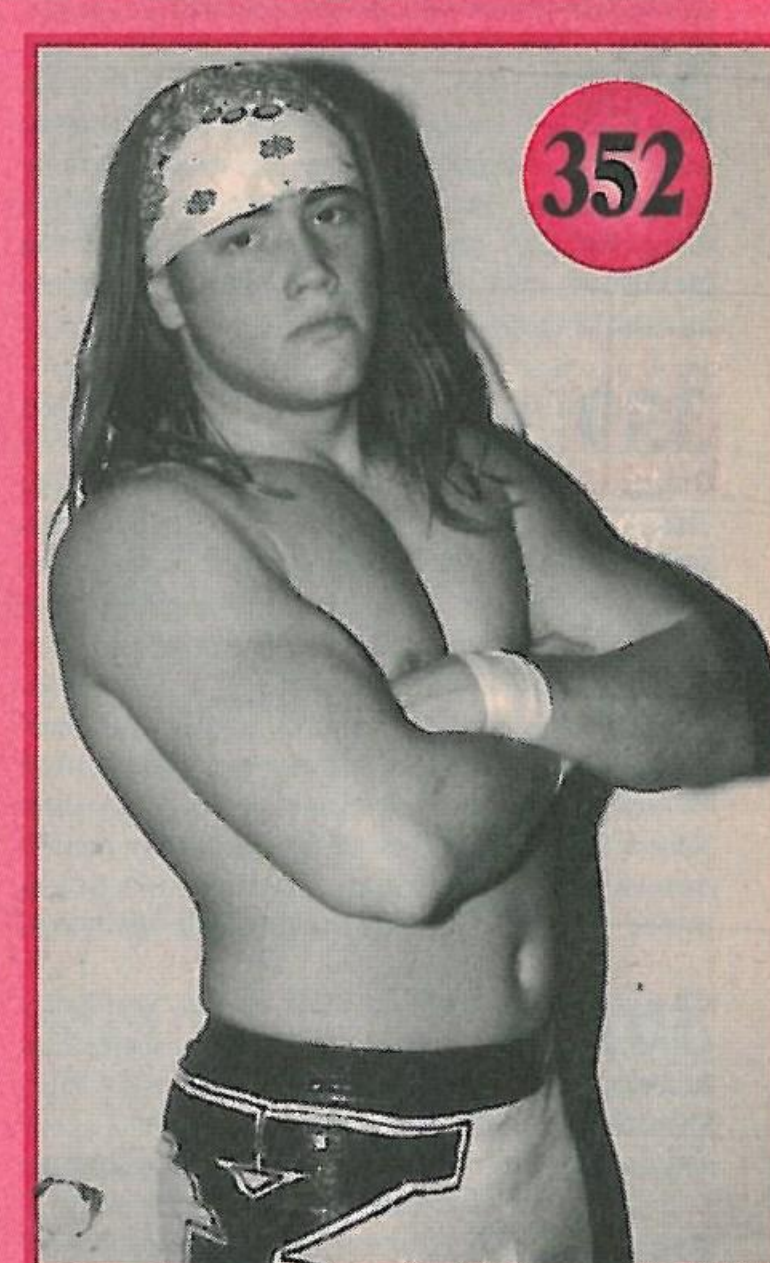
351 HACKSAW HUGGAN (6'3", 235, 11, 316) Hooooooo! ... If you haven't seen him, then you haven't been watching WWF lately ... Increased wrestling schedule a bit this year, appearing regularly on all WCW's TV shows ... Has virtually no technical skills, but still brawls his way to victory over weaker competition fairly regularly ... Somehow finds room to hide a whole roll of wrist tape in his trunks ... Wants to make arenas with long-time rival Meng, though Meng doesn't seem interested.

352 CHRISTIAN YORK (5'10", 218, 2, 329) Competes in numerous East Coast independents ... Top contender to the IPWA light heavyweight title, but has also wrestled heavyweights such as Cueball Candell and Jimmy Cicero and fared well ... Has formed a team called The Young Lions with Joey Matthews ... Has also wrestled against Matthews ... Likes to use a moonault to finish off opponents ... Reminds some fans of a young John Jericho.

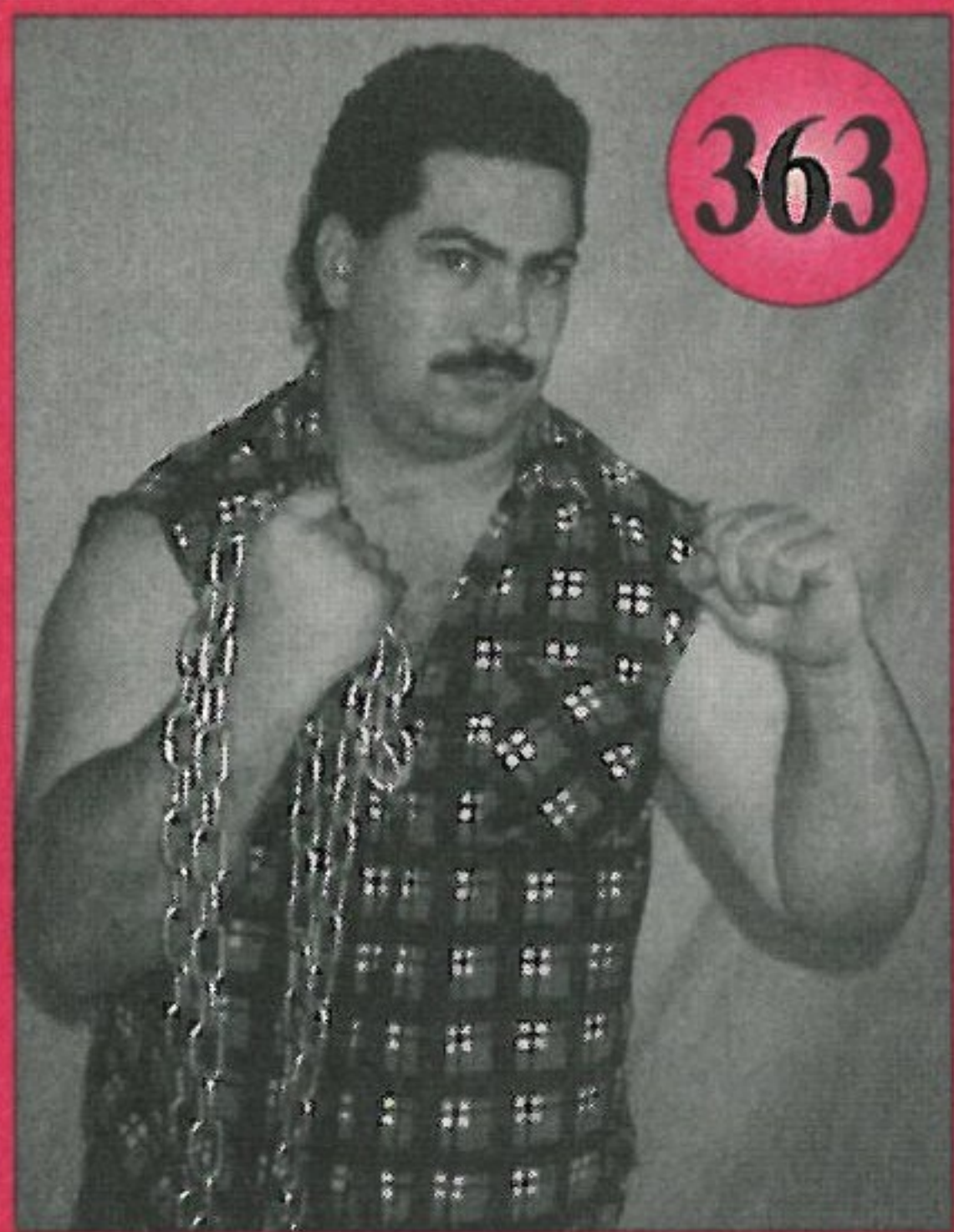
353 THE HOOD (5'6", 235, 6, NL) A member of The Brotherhood in NWA New England ... Former NWA New England cruiserweight champ ... Calls his finisher "Damn Skippy" ... Managed by Little Larry ... Spent most of the year feuding with Ray Odyssey ... Claims to be from "The Hood" in Boston.

354 JOHNNY RAYNOR (5'11", 240, 12, NL) Wrestles throughout the South ... Remains a fan favorite because he takes on the toughest competition he can find ... His brawling ability is a plus because opponents often try to pummel him because of his big mouth ... Maintains a very ambitious wrestling schedule ... That hectic pace has been costing him matches lately.

355 ROGER ANDERSON (6'2", 263, 8, 326) He and Frank Parker wrestled LOD 2000 to a double-countout on *Shotgun Saturday Night* this year ... The Rock 'n' Roll Express and Beau James have been among their other targets ... Competes primarily in Southern Championship Wrestling ... Managed by Count Grog ... Has held the Mid-Atlantic, Classic Wrestling Association, and North American Wrestling Alliance titles.



York's willing to take on the heavys



Woodchuck's a lumbering heavyweight

356 CRUSHER KLINE (6', 315, 4, 357) Still the Global Wrestling Alliance champion despite a rough year defending against the likes of Hotseat Productions' Alexis Machine, "Beautiful" Brian Fury, and The Producer ... Feud has no end in sight ... Competed in Germany in December ... The Ottawa, Ontario, native holds pinfall victories over both D-Lo Brown and Al Snow.

357 CUEBALL CARMICHAEL (6'2", 255, 15, 356) Trained by Lars Anderson ... Extremely popular in his hometown of Alexandria, Virginia, but fans in other areas don't seem to like him at all ... Wrestles all over the East Coast and is a regular in the IPWA ... Three-time former IPWA heavyweight champion is currently feuding with the Gambini Family, and current IPWA heavyweight champion Jimmy Cicero in particular ... Cicero recently sneak-attacked Carmichael, and Cueball is out for revenge ... Has both feuded and teamed with Tom Brandt.

358 MADMAN PONDO (5'11", 235, 8, 282) Has been known to use stop signs to bash his opponents' heads ... Competes in Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky in promotions such as the International Wrestling Association, Cleveland All-Pro Wrestling, Pro Wrestling International, and Bad to the Bone Wrestling ... Claims to hail from "the realm of pain."

359 DR. DAN (5'10", 235, 6, NL) Holds the Tennessee Mountain tag team title with The Orderly ... They are known as Medic Maddness ... The champs have been defending against Ruff Cut (Don Lucas and Mike Powers) ... Performs adequately in singles competition as well ... Likes to have fun in the ring, but knows how to be serious when the situation warrants it.

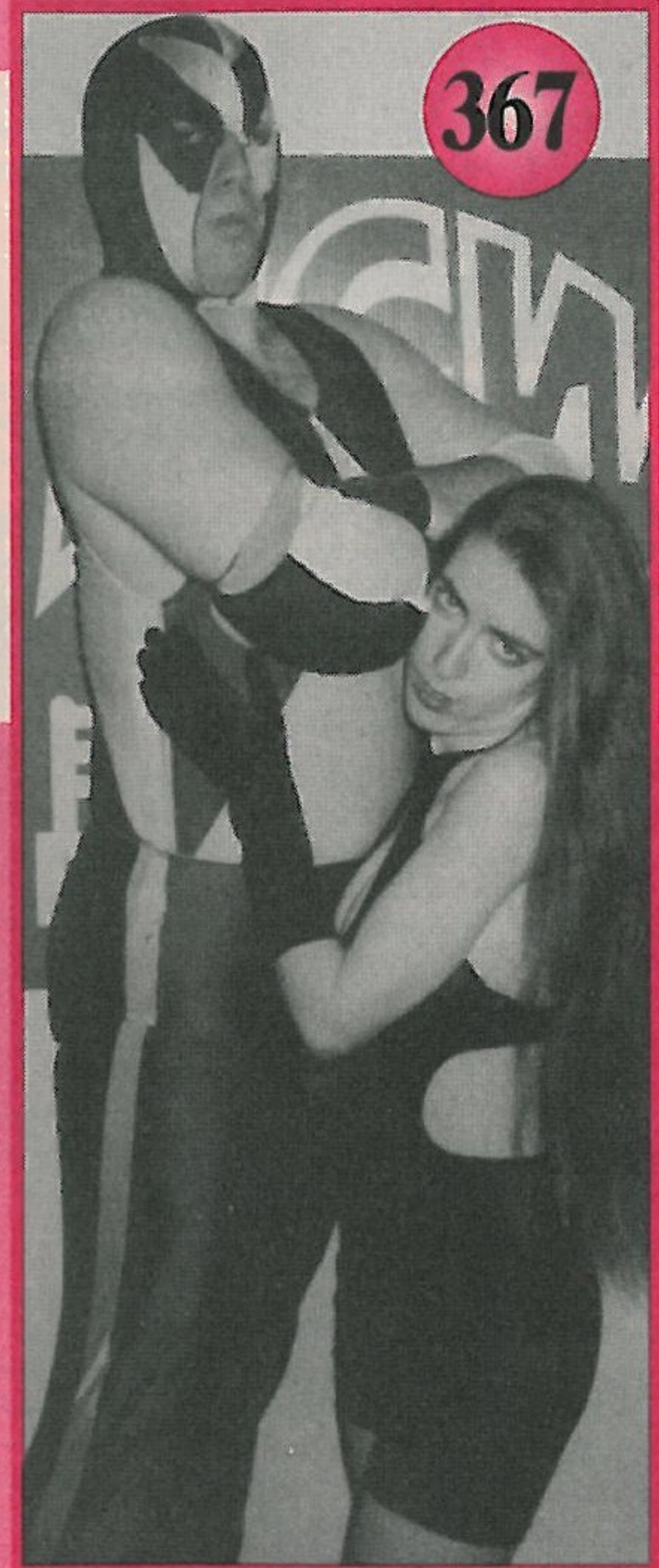
360 PIT BULL I (6'3", 243, 8, 162) This former ECW tag team champion is now frequenting the New Jersey, New York, Maryland, and Pennsylvania independents ... Fully recovered from the broken neck he received at the hands of Shane Douglas in 1996 ... Still teaming with Pit Bull II ... Has retained his muscular build.

361 COL. PAYNE (6', 227, 3, 349) After going through a terrible losing streak, announced his retirement to Pro Wrestling Xpress fans on January 23 ... Rescued B.C. from an attack after The Gentleman's Club turned against him ... Was disguised as B.C.'s grandfather ... Payne and B.C. then formed The Bomb Squad and have gone undefeated since February 13 ... Have challenged PWX tag team champions Brian Anthony and Paul Atlas ... Also competes in the World Wrestling Organization.

362 ROBERT THOMPSON (6', 240, 6, NL) Became the first All-Pro Wrestling Universal champion ... Defeated Michael Modest for the title twice in his hometown of San Jose, California ... The son of local star Ric Thompson ... Adopted his nickname "The Brown Bomber" from boxing legend Joe Louis ... His "Bomber Buster" is a double-chicken wing converted into a jumping DDT.

363 WOODY WOODCHUCK (6'1", 255, 8, NL) No one thought any Tri-Star wrestler would have the success Woody Woodchuck has had ... In addition to being the promotion's heavyweight champion, he dominates competition in other Southern promotions ... Dresses like a lumberjack ... Extremely fast for his size ... Considered an intelligent wrestler and a tough brawler.

364 TORNADO (5'11", 240, 12, NL) One of the best high-flyers in Africa's International Wrestling Federation ... Formerly known as Steve Debbes ... Has also competed in Russia, Germany, and Great Britain ... Last ranked in the "PWI 500" in 1996.



Golem needs more support from Viper

365 BOB STEELE (6'5", 320, 8, NL) Lost the Grande Wrestling Alliance title to 60-year-old George "The Animal" Steele this year ... In addition to Pennsylvania, "Big" Bob has competed in New Jersey and Delaware ... Has feuded with King Kong Bundy, Jason Lives, and Kwarne ... His signature move is a clothesline off the tope rope (the "Steele curtain") ... Hails from Dallas, but not related to "The Animal."

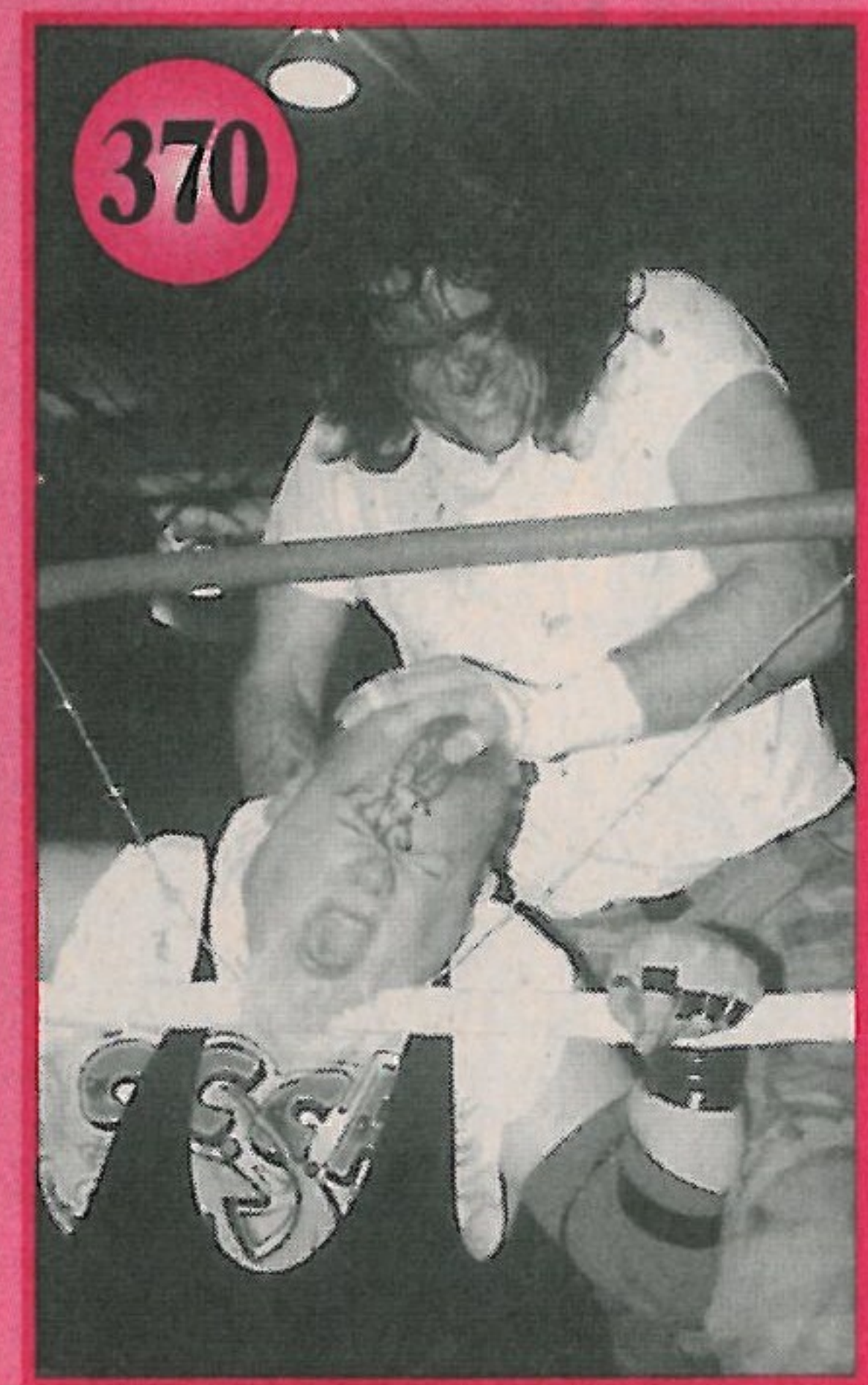
366 ANDRES BORGES (5'8", 190, 4, NL) This WWC fan favorite has been steadily climbing the ratings since his debut ... Has also wrestled in WWA and the Borinquen Sports Promotions in Puerto Rico ... A top contender to the WWC junior heavyweight championship ... Considered one of the best young high-flyers in Puerto Rico.

367 GOLEM THE GIANT (6'8", 310, 3, 338) A difficult year for the Northern Championship Wrestling giant but, with partner Guy Williams, he did win the Quebec tag team championship twice ... Now wants to use the Inter-city championship as a steppingstone to regain the Quebec title he held in 1996 ... Managed by Naja Viper ... Everyone in Viper's stable seemed to be off his game this year, as leader Phil Belanger was sidelined with an injury.

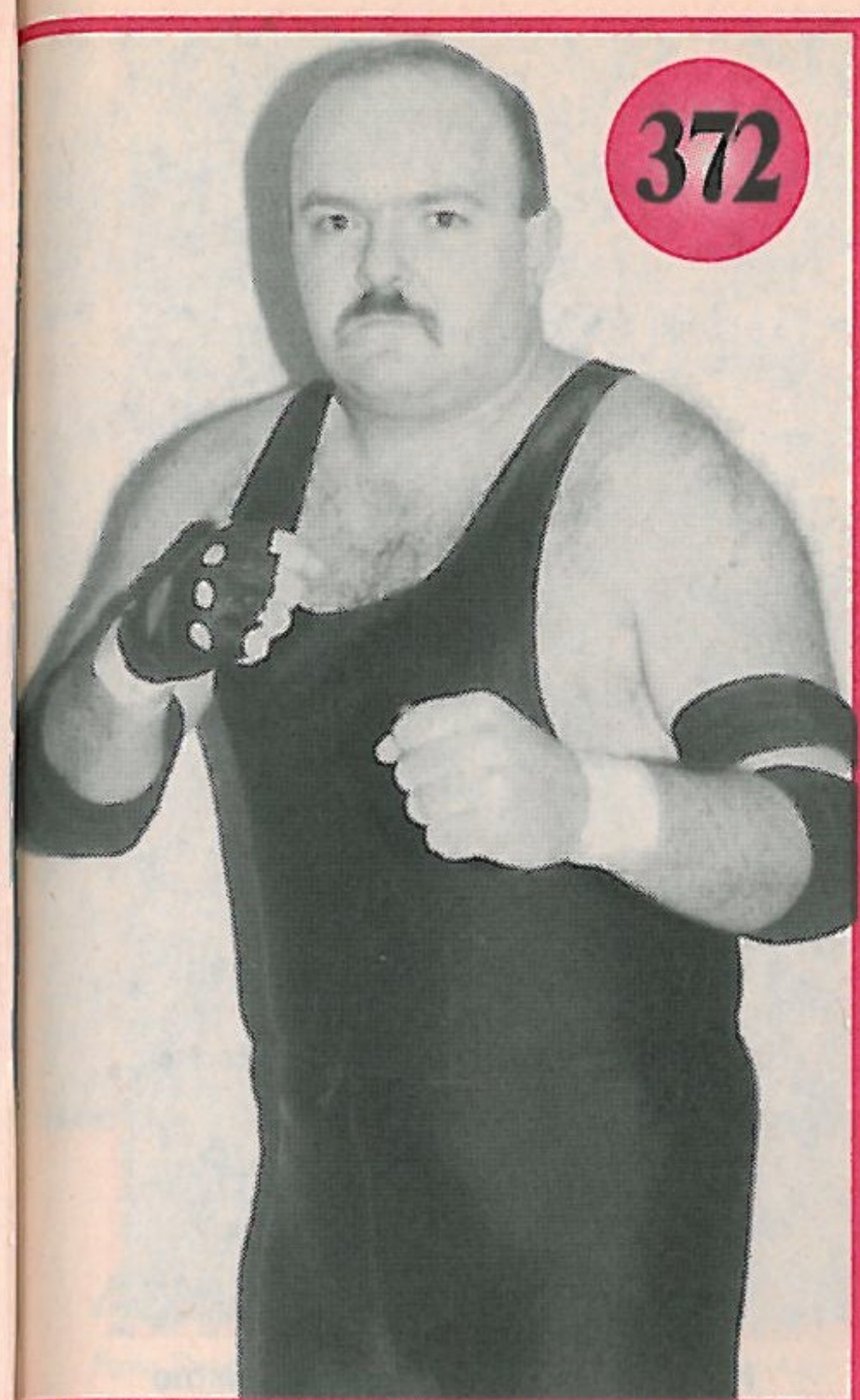
368 D.C. QUEEN (6'1", 310, 7, 405) The East Coast Championship Wrestling champion ... Holds the Virginia-Carolina tag belts with former enemy Rat Boy, who was once known as Aggressor Rage ... They are called The Rude Boyz ... Broke his ankle in a match against Rob McBride, but refused to take time off ... Wants a shot at the Independent Championship Wrestling title ... Also seeking Hollywood Kid's National Wrestling Council East Coast title.

369 ROB MCBRIDE (6'1", 327, 13, 328) The Global Championship Wrestling titleholder ... With Johnny Lightning, feuding with "Cold-Heart" Keith Austin and Wachee ... Managed by Doc Holiday ... Nicknamed "The Bull" ... Signature maneuver is the piledriver ... Has competed in the NWA, CCWA, and TWF ... Hometown is Greensboro, North Carolina.

370 JOHN RAMBO (6'2", 260, 10, 386) The current NWL and MECW heavyweight champion ... Rambo is one of the most popular wrestlers in the Maryland area ... Veteran of the Pacific Northwest ... Calls Savate kick his "combat kick" ... Engaged in lengthy feud with The Mad Russian ... Injured his back during a recent match against Russian, but is now back at almost 100 percent ... Earlier in the year, suffered a hairline fracture of his leg, but continued to wrestle nonetheless ... Looks like Sylvester Stallone ... Trained by Afa the Wild Samoan.



Rambo knows how to make this Russian mad



Bennett's finally appreciated

371 DAVE PATERA (5'10", 172, 5, 417) Was a mid-carder in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling for most of the year—until he defeated Reckless Youth for the Commonwealth title ... His title win wasn't clean, though, as ally Lance Diamond helped him ... Managed by the lovely Dawn Marie, which would be inspiration enough for any man to win a title or two ... Dawn's much better looking than his previous manager, Barry Casino ... His lanky body deceives opponents into thinking he's easy prey ... Fortunately for Patera, he's a good technical wrestler.

372 BRUISER BENNETT (6'1", 245, 9, 397) He, Humongous, and Rico Suave are the only remaining members of Generation X-Treme ... After years of hearing boos, he has become a popular man in Texas All-Star Wrestling ... Has competed in almost every Texas-based promotion ... His finishing move is the heartpunch ("cardiac arrest") ... Hails from Rapid City, South Dakota.

373 CHRIS STEELHEART (5'10", 205, 6, NL) Competes in several southern independents ... An exciting light heavyweight who is willing to perform high-risk maneuvers ... Very intelligent and cunning ... Seeking matches against fellow southern light heavyweights, including Rick Justice and J.T. Coleminer.

374 BOOGIE WOOGIE BROWN (6'1", 325, 8, 361) Perennial fan favorite who doesn't break the rules, which is hard to find these days ... Currently holds the Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling six-man title with Mike Quackenbush and Inferno Kid ... Managed by Capt. Lou Albano ... No one gets up from his big splash finisher ... Always has time to spend with the fans.

375 DANIE VOGUES (6'5", 275, 19, NL) Competes throughout Africa and Europe ... Power wrestler is known for his wild, brawling style ... Called "The Hulk Of Africa" ... Has made disparaging remarks about International Wrestling Federation champ Paul Lloyd.

376 JOHNNY HANDSOME (5'8", 221, 7, 374) Extremely arrogant rulebreaker ... Recently lost his North East Wrestling light heavyweight title to "Surfer" Ray Odyssey, but has demanded that promoters sign a rematch as soon as possible ... Uses a bulldog off the top rope to finish off opponents ... Former high school wrestling champion in New Jersey ... Claims to be not only the best-looking wrestler in North East Wrestling, but also the most talented ... Nicknamed "Mr. Infatuation" ... He's mostly infatuated with himself.

377 JAY SMOOTH (6'3", 220, 6, NL) Has held the All-Pro Wrestling tag team title three times with Kuame Kamoze ... Smooth and Kamoze, along with "Slick" Rick Turner, are members of The Westside Playaz ... Thinks NWO Wolfpac has copied their style ... A master of the "Oakland streetfight," but remains a true ring technician ... His finishing move is an elbowsmash from the top rope.

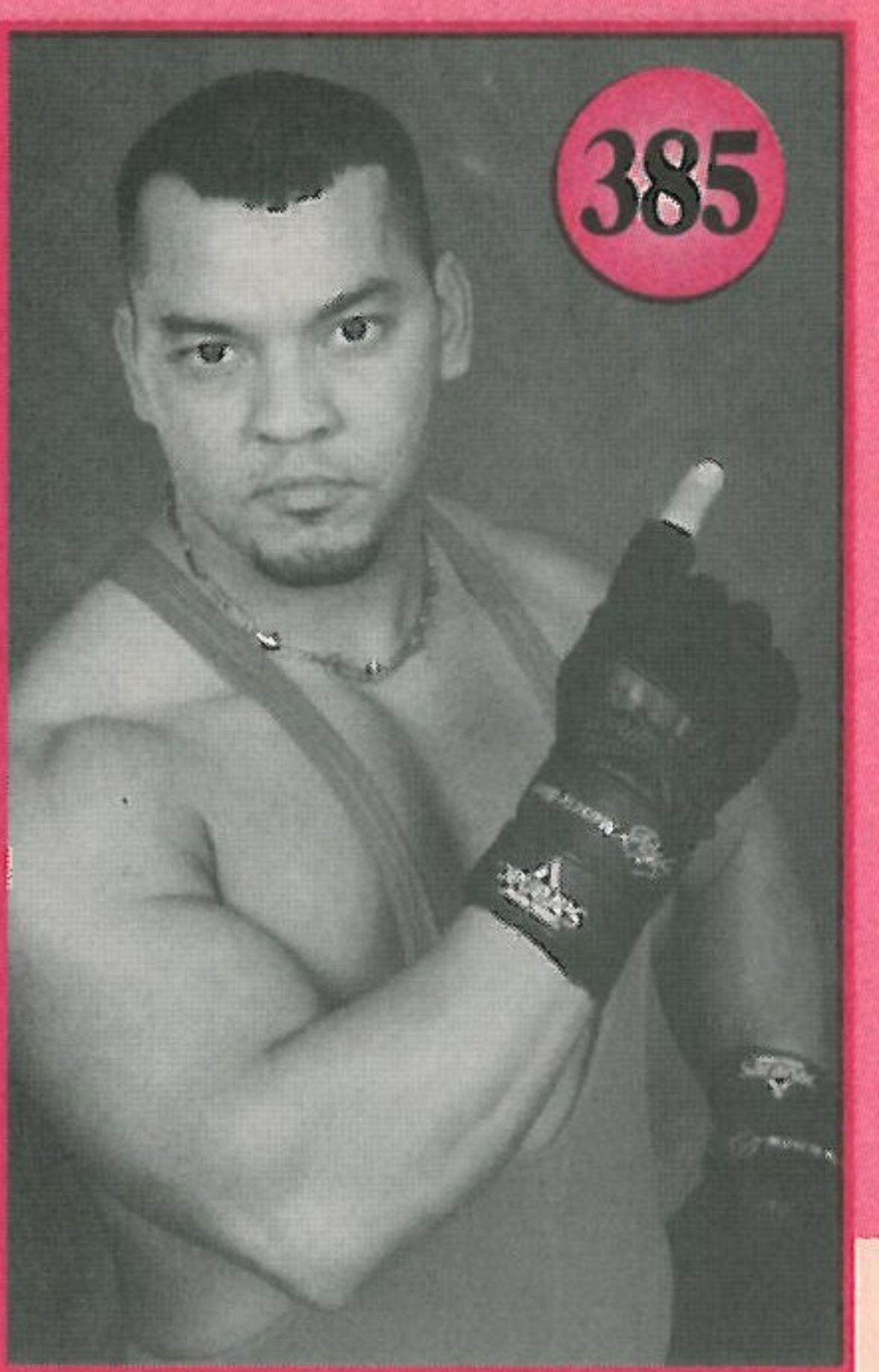
378 SYL THE SADIST (6'1", 225, 8, 429) The Cult, his renegade group, helped him win the Quebec championship from Iceman in January ... Still hasn't recovered from his title loss to Iceman at Challengemania VI ... One of the most hated men in Northern Championship Wrestling ... Jos Milano and Ivan the Imitator, Syl's two henchmen, are looking for a way out of The Cult.

379 RONNIE VEGAS (6'2", 262, 16, 436) Holds the Bad Boys of Wrestling tag team title with J.J. Hunter ... They've been defending the belts against Full Force ... Managed by "Playboy" Johnny Lee ... Nicknamed "Diceman" ... Has had quite a rivalry with BBOW champion Bobo Brazil Jr. ... A Las Vegas native.

380 BRICKHOUSE BROWN (5'10", 225, 16, NL) Veteran rulebreaker in Music City ... Managed by Princess Dee (a.k.a. Debbie Combs) ... Executed a piledriver on Shana Eden during her match with Dee, sparking a feud with her brother, "Stylin'" Shane Eden ... Shana has been sidelined for more than five months as a result ... Previously competed in the USWA and Pacific Northwest.



Steelheart is a braveheart



Rookie Rivera has the power to go places

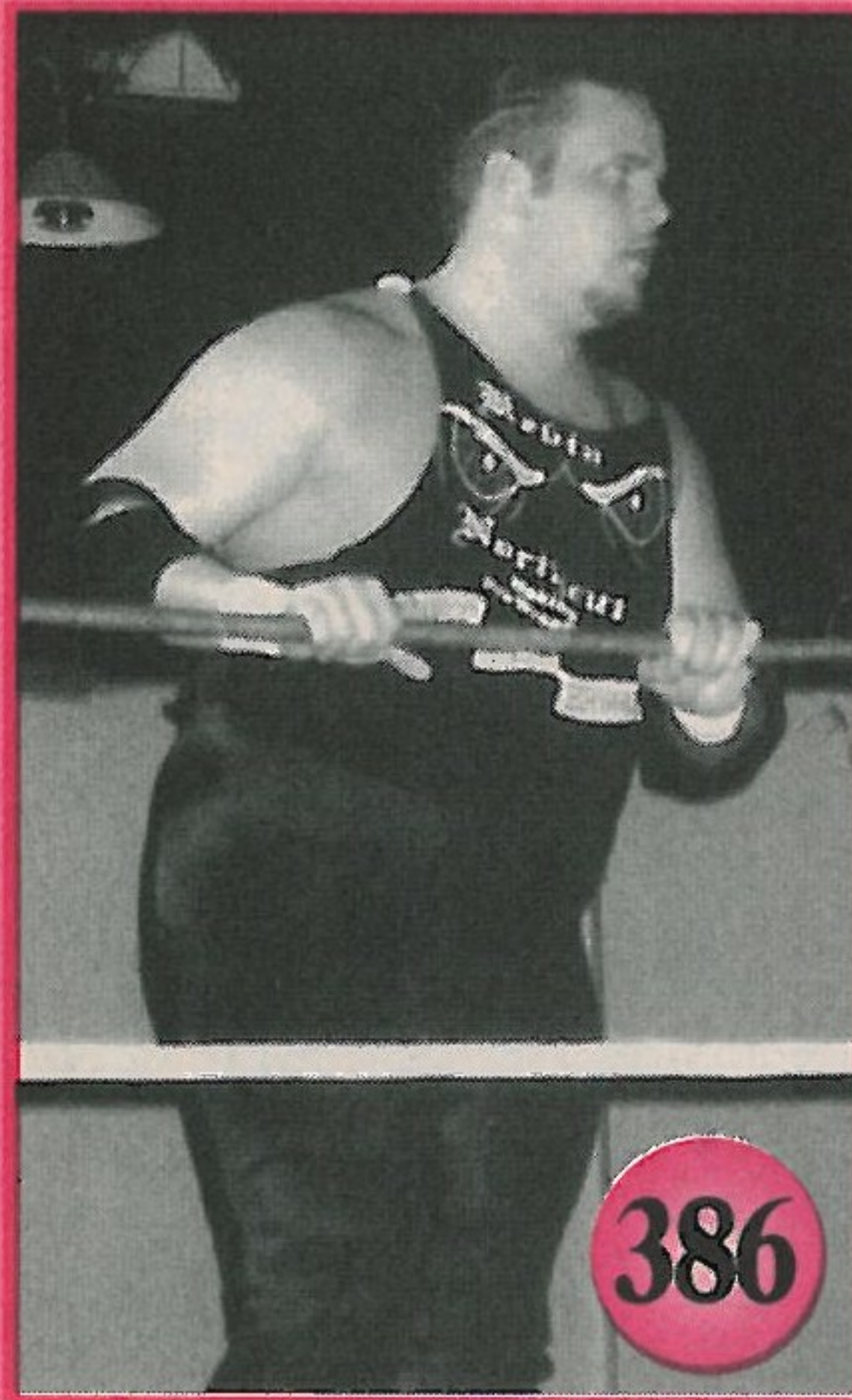
381 BUSHWHACKER BUTCH (5'8", 238, 33, 370) Another former WWF star winding down his career on the independent circuit ... Along with cousin Luke, he travels all across the United States ... A harmless fan favorite who still gets a strong reaction from fans of all ages ... Harmless to the fans, that is, as he is still a formidable competitor inside the ring.

382 ADAM PEARCE (6'3", 242, 2, NL) This 19-year-old sensation is a mainstay in NWA Midwest, but has wrestled in the East long enough to make some enemies ... Recently feuded with Reckless Youth and a clique of East Coast wrestlers ... Holds the Michigan and Indiana State titles ... Nicknamed "Scrap Iron" ... Although he's a heavyweight, he can match lighter wrestlers move-for-move ... His finisher is the piledriver.

383 TIMBER THE LUMBERJACK (6'1", 300, 5, 318) Pursuing Atlantic Coast champion Ballistic ... Defeated "Nitestic" Eddie Brown in a WWF try-out match ... Blends brawling with a high-flying attack ... Has an exceptional moonsault for a man his size ... A former Mid-Atlantic champion ... Has competed throughout North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia ... A native of Black Mountain, North Carolina.

384 JOEY MATTHEWS (5'9", 199, 2, 425) Is known as the "Hard Rock Kid" ... Small by even light heavyweight standards, but his quick high-flying moves keep his opponents off-balance ... Recently won the Star Five light heavyweight title, which is recognized by four separate promotions ... Has formed a team called The Young Lions with Christian York ... Has also wrestled York, who is a top contender to Matthews' Star Five championship ... A top contender to Julio Sanchez' IPWA light heavyweight title.

385 ATLAS RIVERA (5'8", 220, 1, NL) Holds the Grande Wrestling Alliance tag team title with O-Dogg ... They are known as The Latin American Connection ... The Krash Krew are their top rivals ... Won the Nirvana Cup Benchpress Competition two consecutive years ... Won the GWA Rookie of the Year Award ... Feuding with Middknight ... A second-generation wrestler ... His finishing maneuvers are the "Boricua bomb" and the "Atlas-plex."



386

Northcutt has rocky relationship with his trainer

386 KEVIN NORTHCUTT (6'6", 348, 5, NL) The Mid-South champion is defending his belt against One Man Gang, among others ... His love-hate relationship with the man who trained him, Mr. Wrestling III, has been compared to the rocky relationship between Mick Foley and Terry Funk ... Feuding with the popular Pete Lothario in Texas ... Battling Solomon Grundy in Mexico ... Also competing in the Continental Wrestling Federation ... Has experience in Promo Azteca.

387 BRIAN ANTHONY (6', 220, 8, 371) Recently won the Pro Wrestling Xpress/NWA East tag team title with Paul Atlas ... Co-founded The Wrong Crowd in September 1995 ... The clique also includes Atlas, Jimmy Anjel, and Mr. Big ... A former PWX heavyweight champion ... Nicknamed "Bad Boy" ... Has wrestled Sabu, Tom Brandi, and Dudley Dudley ... Trained by Dominic DeNucci.

388 CHRIS MICHAELS (5'9", 210, 5, 382) Popular high-flyer now competing in Music City Wrestling ... A native of Tennessee ... Keeps opponents off-balance with his speed, agility, and aerial skills ... Suffered neck and back injuries when The Wild Boys piledrived him on the arena floor a year ago, but has made an amazing recovery ... Has promised that he won't forget what The Wild Boys did.

389 MATADOR (5'11", 215, 3, NL) The Diehard cruiserweight champion ... Although he is American, this masked wrestler has a distinctive Lucha Libre style ... Wrestles throughout the South ... Prefers a scientific style, but can brawl, too ... Is considered by many to be, along with the likes of Rick Justice, J.T. Colominer, and Chris Steelheart, one of the top young light heavyweights in the southern independents.

390 STEVE SOUTHERN (5'8", 191, 7, 445) One of the South's top cruiserweights ... Competes in UCW and the CWF ... Feuding with Chad Cheetum ... Nicknamed "Babyface" ... Finishing move is the 450 splash ... Has wrestled in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida ... Blends the Lucha Libre and Japanese styles very nicely.

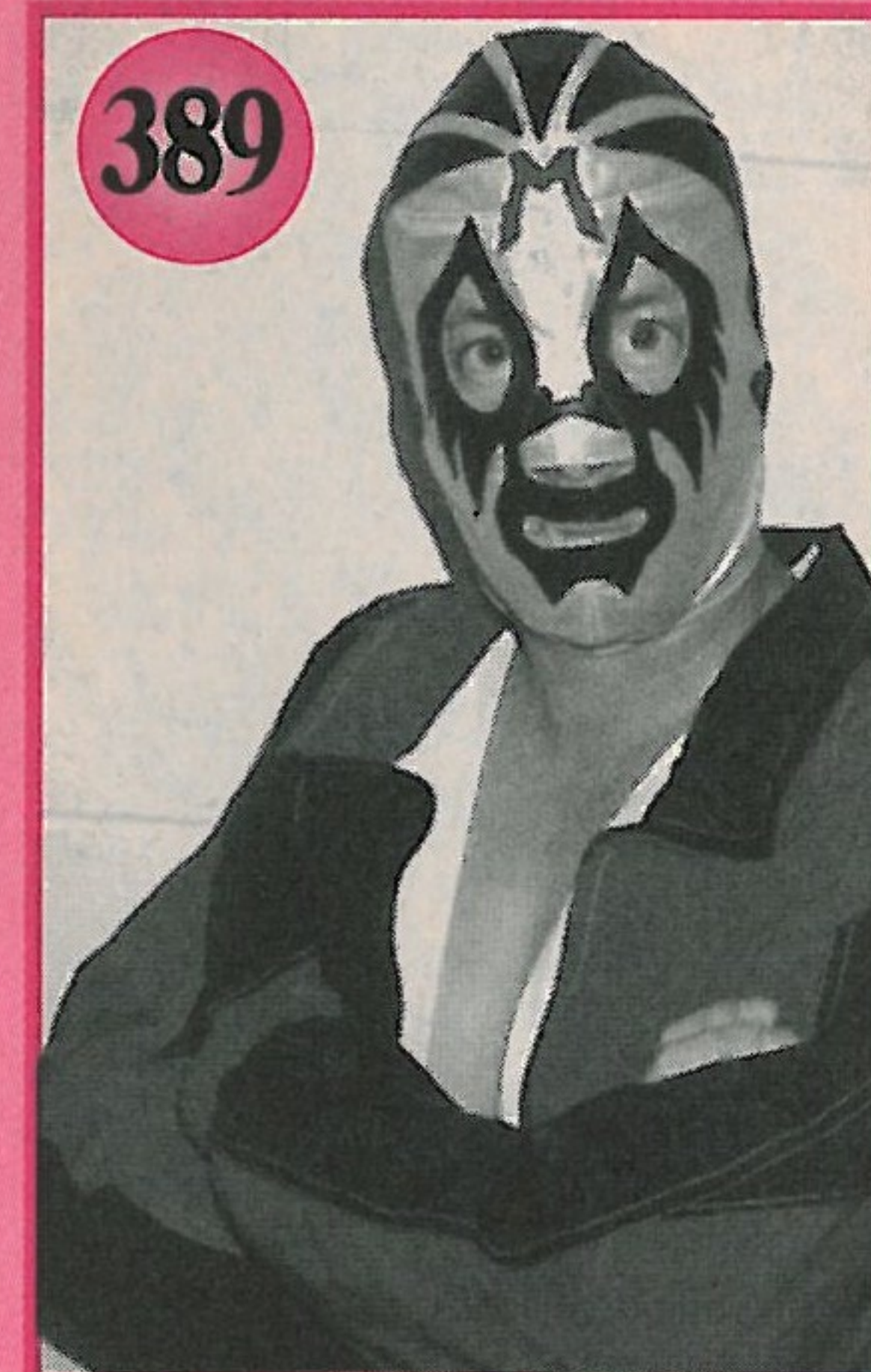
391 THE HOLLYWOOD KID (6', 195, 2, NL) The National Wrestling Council East Coast champion ... Turned fan favorite after taking a severe beating at the hands of Psycho and The Doctor in October 1997 ... Lost to Psycho in the Virginia-Carolina Wrestling title tournament final ... Has had many bloody bouts with Psycho since, including one barbed-wire match ... The top contender to the now-vacant VCV championship ... Also competes in West Virginia's World Professional Wrestling.

392 J.R. RYDER (6'3", 235, 2, NL) One of the hottest young stars in the Northeast independents ... This wiry competitor's looks are intimidating to some opponents and alluring to females ... Must be intimidating if he has the word "pain" tattooed across his back ... Gymnastic background gives him great flexibility ... Trained by Glen Osbourne ... Competes in PCW, ECWA, and NWA ... A former PCW tag team champ ... Finisher is the "Rip Cord," a modified Frankensteiner.

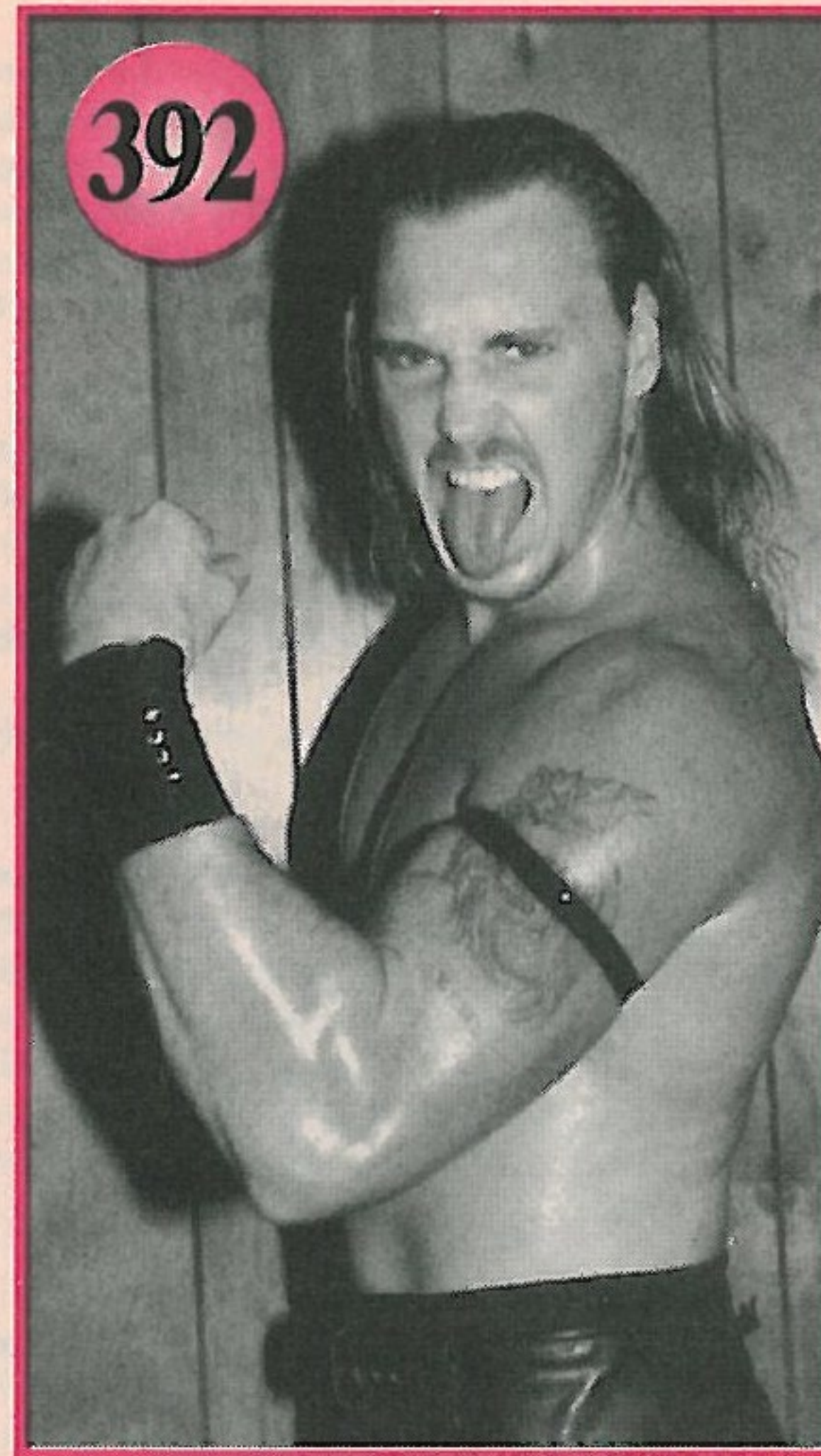
393 HUMONGOUS (6'4", 405, 6, 403) One of the most popular stars in Texas All-Star Wrestling ... Along with Bruiser Bennett and Rico Suave is a member of Generation X-Treme ... Also teams with Tank Tyler ... Seeking to regain the Texas State title ... An instructor at TASW's wrestling school ... Favorite maneuver is the "Humongous drop" ... Agile for a man his size.

394 C.W. ANDERSON (6'1", 245, 4, 401) Reunited with brother Pat and won the Southern Championship Wrestling tag team title ... Feuding with The Country Club's Generation X ... Has also captured tag belts in the NWA, Mid-Atlantic, CWA, SWA, CCWA, SCWA, and NIWA ... His finisher is a legdrop off the top turnbuckle ... Originally from Minneapolis.

395 PRIMO CARNERA III (6'7", 303, 14, 319) Nicknamed "The Italian Giant" ... Competing in North East Wrestling, where he has won several over-the-top-rope battle royals and handicap matches ... Extremely strong ... Has used a devastating power bomb to finish off opponents ... Very agile for a man of his size ... Often managed by "Magnificent" Mike Mercedes in North East Wrestling ... Long feud with Tony DeVito appears to have come to an end ... Also known as "Big Guido," a part-time member of the FBI, in ECW.



Matador's no-bull style is catching on



Ryder likes to play the pain game

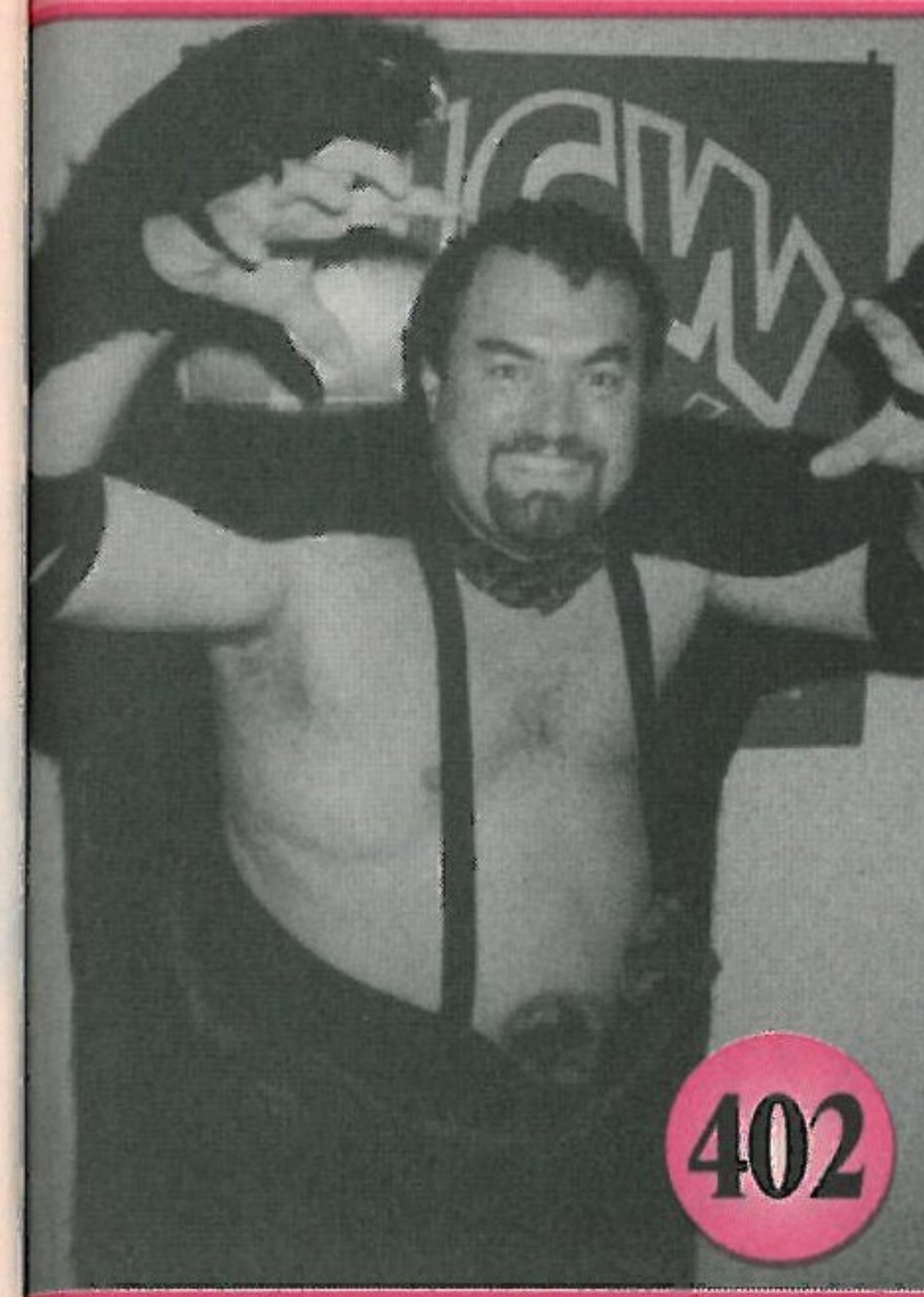
396 BRIAN DANZIG (6', 220, 4, 385) In the midst of his third American Independent Wrestling Federation U.S. title reign ... A member of the hated Family ... Like other Family members, has his hands full with Sgt. Craig Pittman ... Has reconciled with Rick Deeze ... Has also held the AIWF light heavyweight and tag team titles.

397 TONY GOLDEN (6'2", 255, 6, NL) Feuding with King Kong Krusty, whom he blames for losing the AWC tag team title ... Competing in Florida Championship Wrestling and other independents ... A former AWC heavyweight champion ... Cousin of "Tennessee Stud" Jimmy Golden ... Has wrestled throughout the Northeast as well.

398 B.C. (6'1", 242, 2, NL) Held both the Pro Wrestling Xpress and World Wrestling Organization tag team titles this year ... Attacked by fellow members of the Gentleman's Club following a team loss to T. Rantula and the WEBB ... Col. Payne, disguised as B.C.'s grandfather, rescued him ... B.C. and Payne then formed The Bomb Squad ... The only wrestler to bodyslam 400-pound Country Boy Chris ... Formerly known as Bonecrusher.

399 BUSHWHACKER LUKE (5'10", 235, 32, 364) He and Cousin Butch are still very active on the independent scene ... Met with adulation from fans of all ages everywhere they go, which is a total change from the 1980s ... Hard to believe that this lovable guy was once a reviled Sheepherder, known more for his brutality than his smile.

400 WOLVERINE (5'9", 217, 8, NL) A former New England Wrestling Alliance heavyweight and Continental champion ... Won the Rhode Island State title this year to become first man to win all three NEWA singles titles ... Capt. Lou Albano helped him win his second Rhode Island State title ... He and "Danger Boy" Alfredo defeated Nightmare for the NEWA tag team title ... Had to recover from a broken nose and bruised ribs this year ... Voted the NEWA's most popular wrestler.

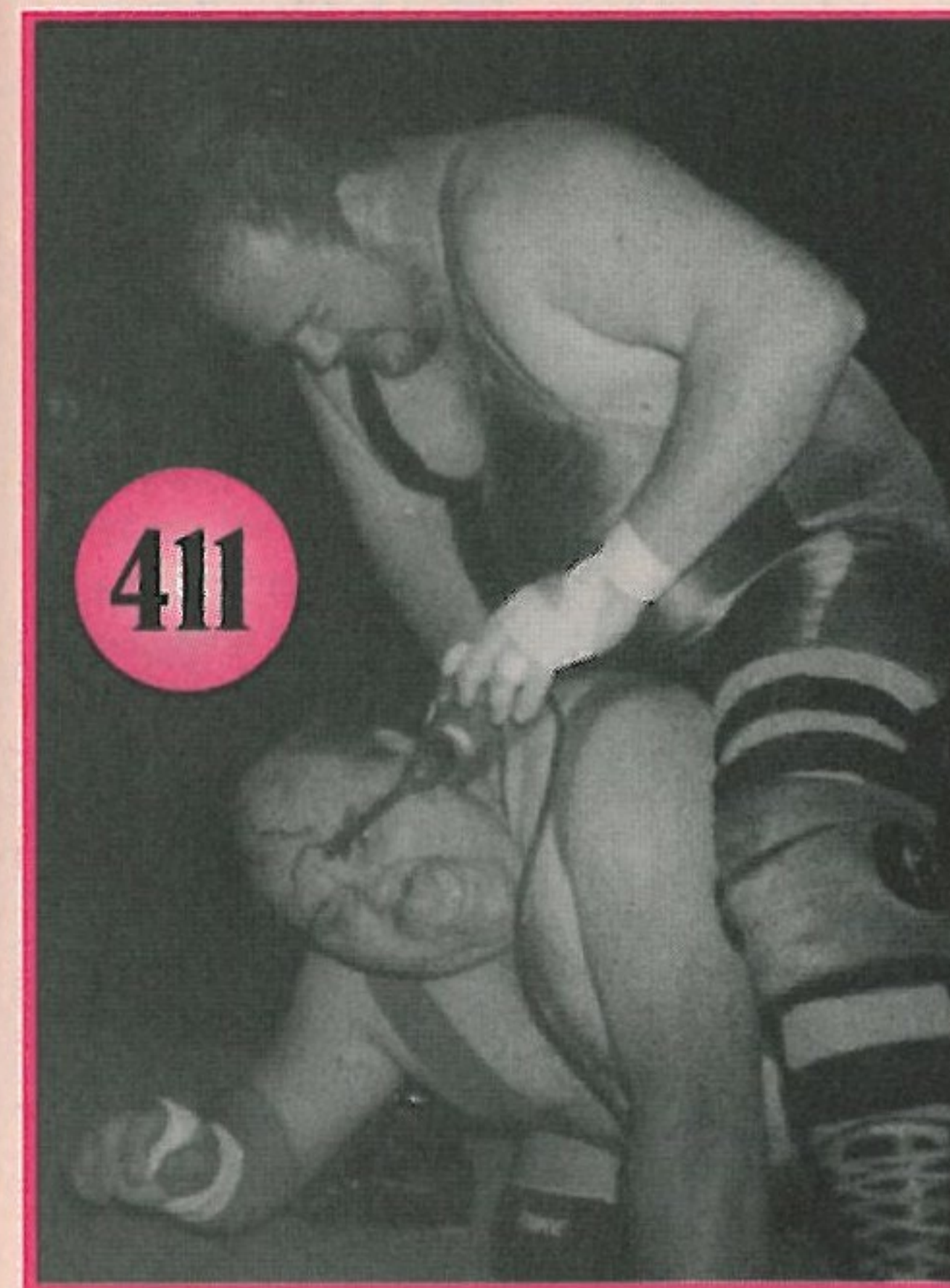


402

Grizzly is out of favor with the kids

401 PROF. EGON ECTON (6', 225, 4, 440) A strange character even by wrestling standards ... From Three Mile Island, Pennsylvania ... Claims to be a science professor ... Usually comes to the ring dressed in his lab coat, and has formed a tag team with another wrestler known only as The Lab Experiment ... Finishing move is the "Prof Drop" ... Used to dye his hair several different colors, but recently lost a hair vs. hair match and was shaved bald ... Primarily competes in the National Wrestling League and MECW.

402 MARC THE GRIZZLY (6', 308, 3, 432) Once a favorite among kids, some have been turned off by his strange behavior as of late ... Based in Northern Championship Wrestling, but makes occasional jaunts elsewhere ... Defeated Steve Rush at NCW's ChallengeMania VI card ... An instructor at the NCW wrestling school.



411

We're not sure if Carson's power drill was plugged in!

403 ALEXIS MACHINE (6', 255, 4, 402) It's been an up-and-down year for the charter member of Hotseat Productions ... Defeated Skull Ganz to win the NSWA heavyweight title, but dropped it to Tito Santana two months later ... Feuding with Crusher Kline over the Global Wrestling Alliance title ... Has had memorable matches with "Superstar" Lance Diamond ... Still lets his manager, The Producer, do all his talking for him ... Has competed all over the U.S. and Canada.

404 ALEXANDER THE MAGNIFICENT (6'1", 246, 4, NL) Came back from a broken ankle to win the NCW Inter-city championship twice ... Former referee-turned-manager Ben the King has whipped Alexander into winning form ... Rumors suggest this might be his last year in Northern Championship Wrestling.

405 JOHNNY LIGHTNING (5'11", 225, 6, NL) He and "Cowboy" Mike Shane defeated The Nightbreed and Cousin Delbert (substituting for Tenju) for the Mid-Atlantic Sports tag team title ... Surrendered the cruiserweight title because MAS rules state that a wrestler cannot hold two belts at once ... Feuding with "Cold-Heart" Keith Austin in Global Championship Wrestling ... Loved in MAS, but hated in GCW.

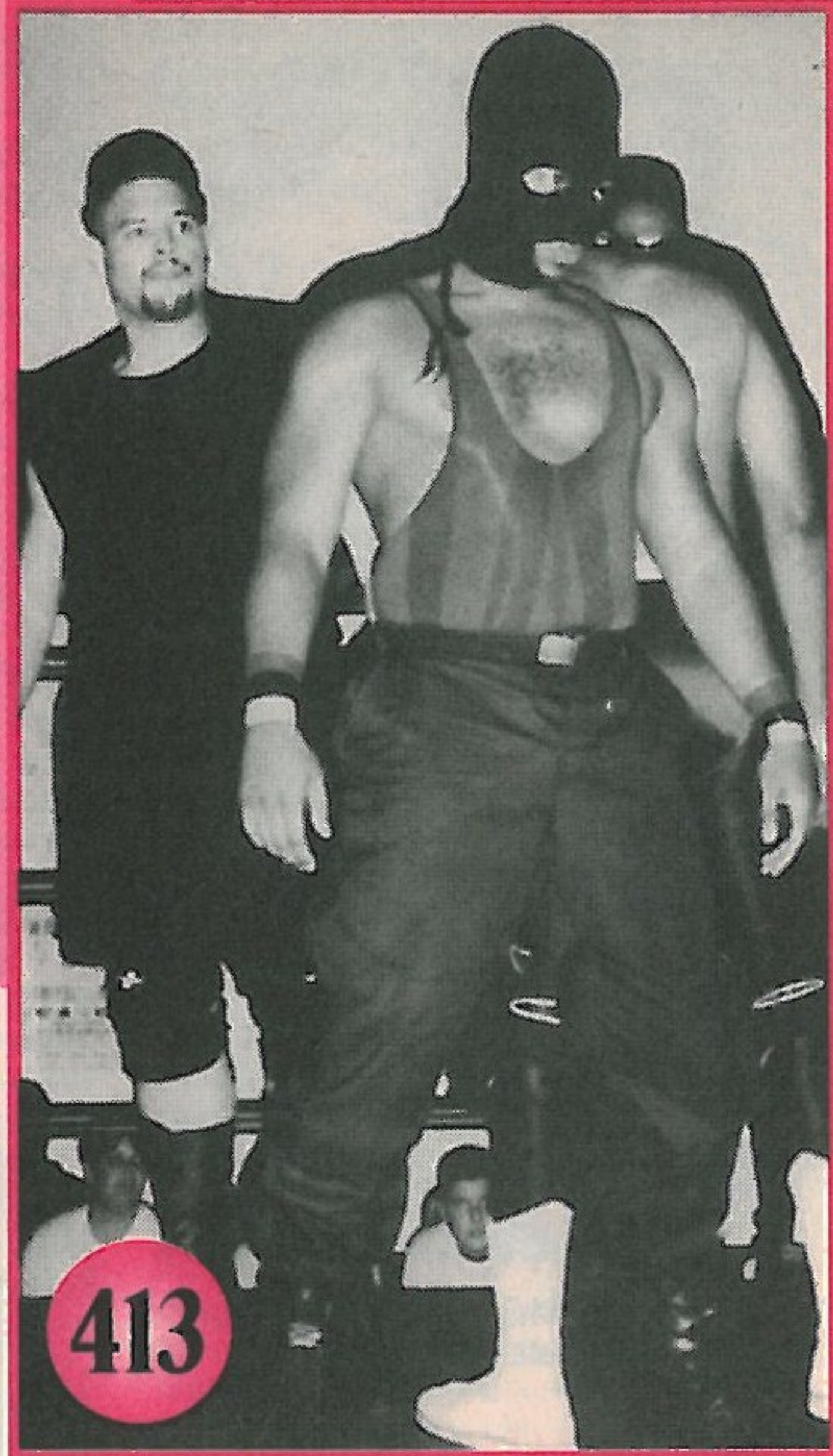
406 DANNY CHRISTIAN (5'10", 230, 7, NL) His brother, Bam Bam, recently turned against him ... Competed under a mask for a short time as The Fall Branch Redneck after dropping a loser-leaves-town match to Bam Bam ... Received the Southern States Wrestling Most Popular Wrestler of the Year award for the fourth year in a row ... Has held several titles in SSW, the SWA, and Tennessee's SCW ... The powerslam is his finisher.

407 MAJOR HAVOC (6'2", 269, 3, 324) Feuding with two of the American Independent Wrestling Federation's warring factions, The Family and The Tennessee Violence Authority ... Thinks WWF World champ Steve Austin talks to him through his television on Monday nights ... Recently survived a power bomb through a table ... His finishing move is the "Havoc splash" ... A two-time AIWF champion.

408 JIHAD HUSSEIN (6'1", 245, 5, 400) Mainstay in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling ... Replaced manager Barry Casino with wrestler/manager Joe Rules ... Remains a consistent contender to the PCW heavyweight belt, but has yet to win it ... Is feuding with former ally Dave Patera ... Tough brawler who rarely uses any technical moves.

409 JOHN ROCK (6'1", 237, 7, NL) After a brief hiatus, returned to Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling to feud with Glen Osbourne ... Somehow, he and Osbourne—now known as The Dark Side—became friends and are fighting Christian Cage, Sexton Hardcastle (a.k.a. Edge in WWF), and the rest of Revolution X ... From south Philadelphia.

410 ALFREDO TRAVIESO (5'9", 205, 3, NL) He and Wolverine defeated Nightmare for the New England Wrestling Alliance tag team title ... "Danger Boy" is managed by Rex Havoc and sometimes advised by Capt. Lou Albano ... Hosts a morning radio show on 92.3 FM in Providence, Rhode Island ... A guest cornerman for The Headbangers during a WWF match in Warwick, Rhode Island, this year ... His finishers are the small package and figure-four leglock.



413

Kamoze has to stop riling APW brass

411 DON CARSON (6', 288, 12, 410) Leader of the popular Tennessee Violence Authority ... Battling AIWF arch-rivals The Family and Major Havoc ... A former AIWF champion ... Nicknamed "Dangerous" Don ... His finisher is the spinning crucifix ... Has also held titles in Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

412 J.T. LIGHTNING (5'10", 218, 6, NL) Competes in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Ohio ... Has had his greatest success in Cleveland All-Pro Wrestling, where he has won three light heavyweight and two tag team titles ... In fact, he has held seven different light heavyweight titles ... A native of Atlanta.

413 KUAME KAMOZE (6', 223, 6, NL) Has held the All-Pro Wrestling tag team title three times with Jay Smooth ... Kamoze and Smooth, along with "Slick" Rick Turner, are known as The Westside Playaz ... Kamoze is the undisputed leader ... Considers the Playaz to be an African-American version of The Four Horsemen ... Sometimes uses a kendo stick on his adversaries ... Has been suspended from APW several times.

414 RASTA SAVAGE (6'2", 525, 2, NL) The Texas State champion in Texas All-Star Wrestling ... Managed by the hated A.C. ... Seems impervious to pain ... Makes arch-rival Humongous, who weighs 405 pounds, look small by comparison ... The splash is his finishing move ... A native of Jamaica.

415 J.P. HOGG (6'3", 243, 10, 490) Battling a number of competitors in Bad Boys of Wrestling, including J.J. Hunter, The Tank, The Executioner, and The Amish Assassin ... He and Cousin Bubba are collectively known as The Scufflin' Hillbillies ... They held the BBOW tag team title from June 1997 to January 1998 ... Hails from the Ozark Mountains.



Vinny Massaro whips Donovan Morgan across the ring

416 BOYCE LEGRANDE (6'2", 208, 1, NL) Eliminated All-Pro Wrestling stars "Vicious" Vic Grimes and Michael Modest during a recent battle royal ... Nicknamed "Bad Boy" ... Likes to dive over the top rope and hit his opponent with a cross-bodyblock outside the ring ... Also uses the Russian leg sweep ... The high-flyer is popular with California fans ... A front-runner for APW's Rookie of the Year Award.

417 J.B. JAMMER (5'10", 275, 9, NL) The Mid-Atlantic Sports Coastal champion ... Defending his title against Idol X in a series of streetfights ... Most underestimate him because of his reputation as a carefree party animal ... Has solid ring skills, but usually ends up brawling when he loses his temper ... Uses a spinning power bomb, the "jam slam," and a standing submission hold, the "jammerlock," as his finishers.

418 911 (6'7", 310, 5, 387) One of the biggest, toughest, and most powerful competitors in Int'l Pro Wrestling ... Because of his great size and strength advantage over most other wrestlers, promoters often sign 911 to handicap matches (sometimes against three opponents at once) ... Earned an impressive victory over The Masked Mutilators in a handicap match several months ago, and IPW matchmakers are trying to sign him to a match with King Kong Bundy ... 1994 PWI Rookie of the Year ... Choke-slam has always proven to be an effective finisher.

419 FRANKIE THE MOBSTER (6', 179, 1, NL) Holds the Quebec tag team title with Raiden ... They are known as The Cosa Nostra ... Both received Northern Championship Wrestling Rookie of the Year Awards ... Manager Ben the King is the brains behind this brash young tandem ... Held the NCW TV title this year ... Very popular despite his tendency to cheat.

420 VINNY MASSARO (5'10", 262, 1, NL) Won the All-Pro Wrestling tag team title with "Vicious" Vic Grimes in his debut ... Once a referee, "The Gigolo" has also posed as Grimes' baby brother, Die ...

Managed by the effeminate Nathaniel Sweet ... Wants a shot at APW Universal champion "La Migra" Maxx Justice ... His "One Night Stand" is a move in which he hooks his opponents' wrists and butt-bumps their heads into the mat ... Claims to be from Venice, Italy.

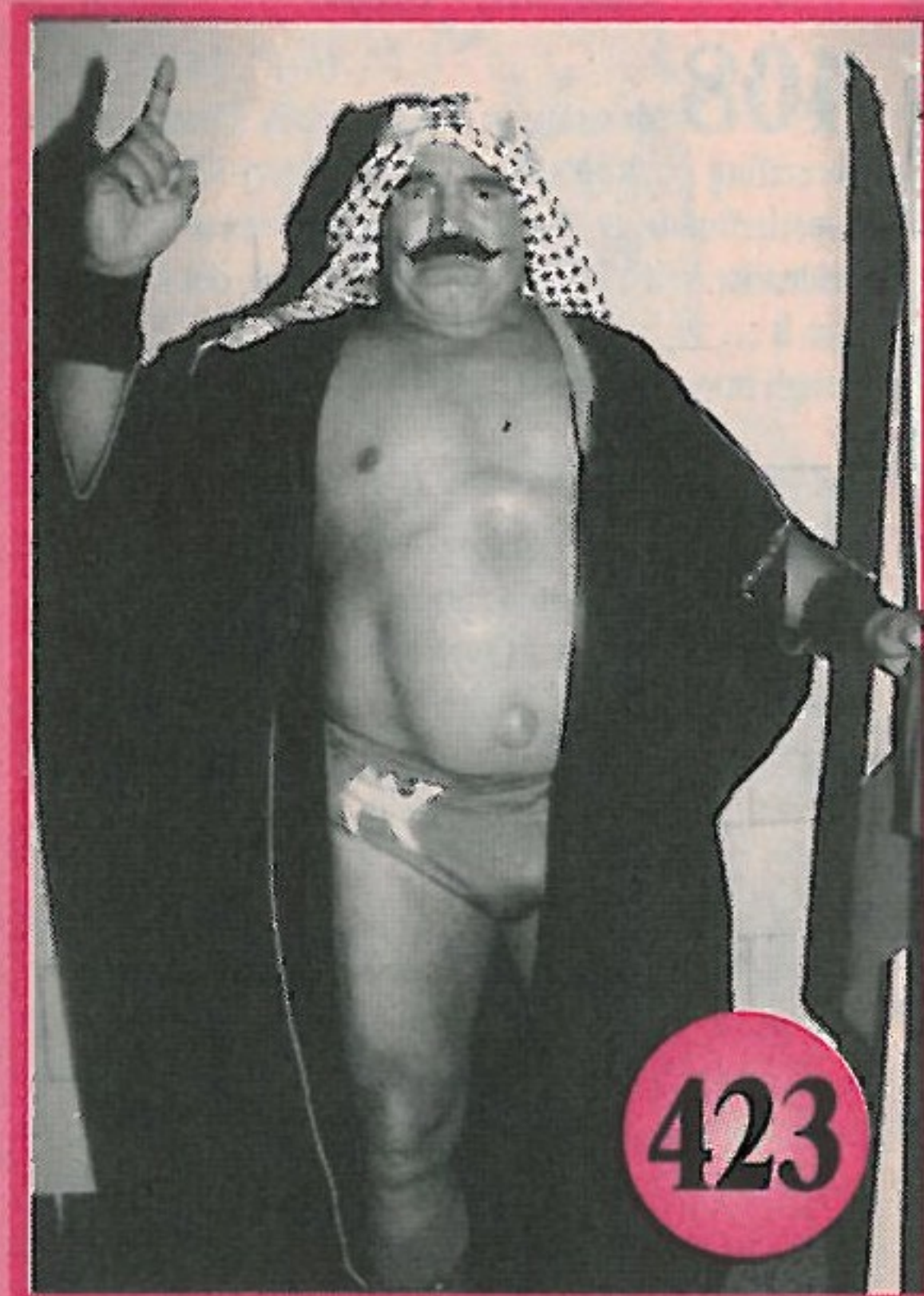
421 JOE RULES (5'11", 246, 3, 500) Was thrilled when he found out his number 500 ranking last year ... Gained moderate success in several Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware independents ... Decided this year that just wrestling wasn't enough, so he became the manager of several wrestlers in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling ... So far, he hasn't led them or himself to any PCW titles ... His best offensive move is to take the microphone before a match and rant for several minutes.

422 REX KING (5'11", 237, 11, NL) Has had personal differences with former partner Steven Dunn, with whom he teamed in the WWF and Smoky Mountain ... They have held the Pacific Northwest, World Wrestling Council, and USWA tag titles ... Quite popular in Music City ... Once known as Timothy Well ... Veteran who first rose to prominence in the Pacific Northwest.

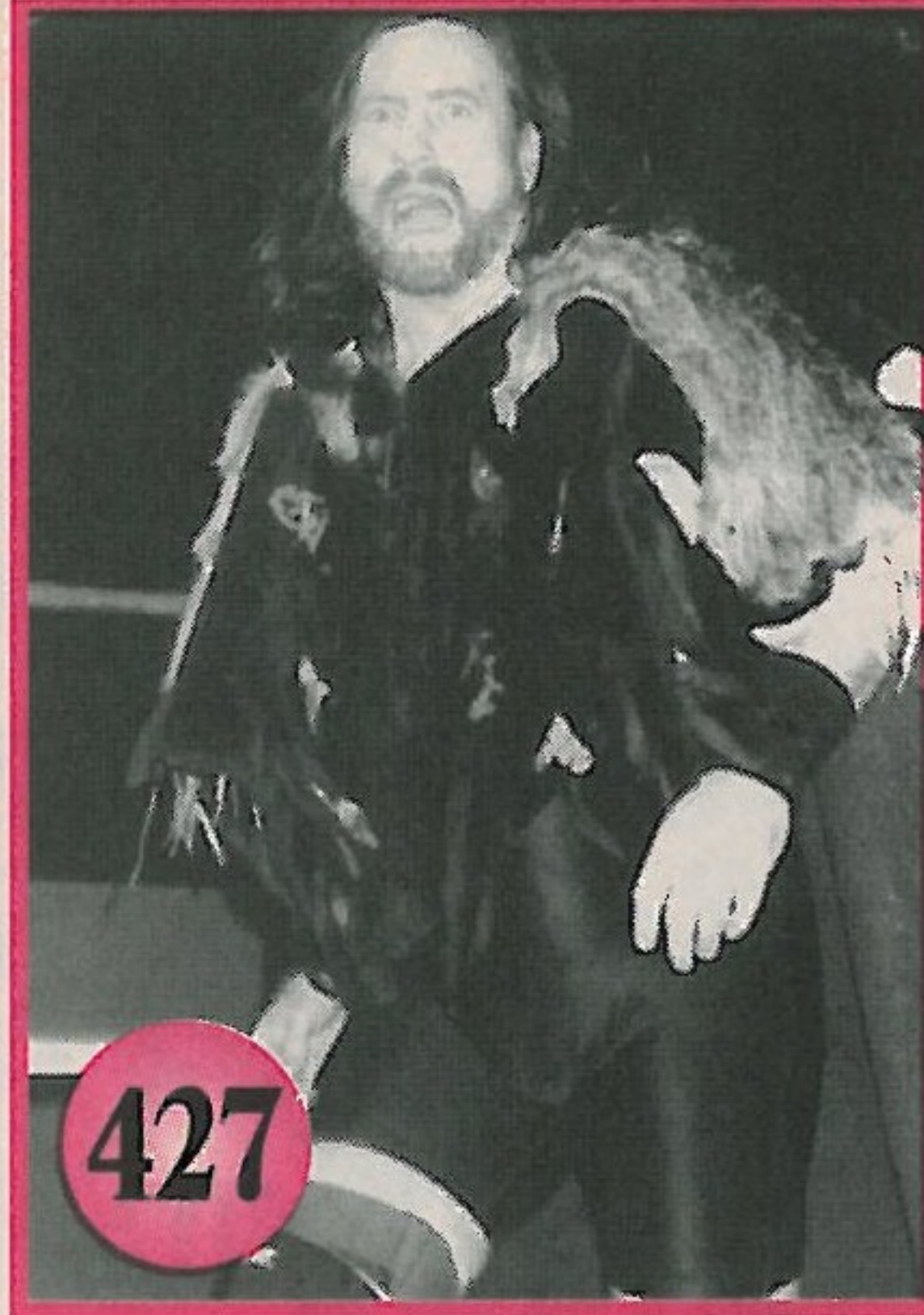
423 THE IRON SHEIK (6', 290, 25, 431) This man's best days are far behind him, but that won't stop him from beating up the best of the young crop on the independent circuit ... Since the former WWF champ is so respected as a veteran journeyman, many inexperienced wrestlers jump at the chance to wrestle him ... Has dusted off his clubs and now brings them on the road to challenge anyone to swing them above their head, which he can still do with ease.

424 CHAM-PAIN (5'11", 208, 4, 427) A former exotic dancer who traded his G-string for a chance to compete in a wrestling ring ... Has wrestled in the WWF and in several Mid-Atlantic promotions ... His finisher is the corkscrew plancha ... Primarily an aerial wrestler who will verbally assault anyone within earshot ... Has appeared on Sally Jessy Raphael and The Montel Williams Show ... Has held the NFWA heavyweight, the ACW lightweight, and the ECWF Intercontinental and tag team titles.

425 JAMIE JACKSON (5'11", 206, 2, 444) A member of The Hollywood Hunks, which include former rival Stunning Sean, Custom-Made Man, and valet Raquel ... Trying to regain the Renegade Wrestling



The Iron Sheik is a target of up-and-comers



Mad Dog's a beer-guzzling bad boy

Alliance title from Pete Rakk ... Formerly known as "Wildcat," he now wants to be called "Sexy Baby" ... Finisher is the superkick ... Had an exciting feud with "Sweet" Steve Hart ... Based in Canada, but has wrestled for some Michigan independents.

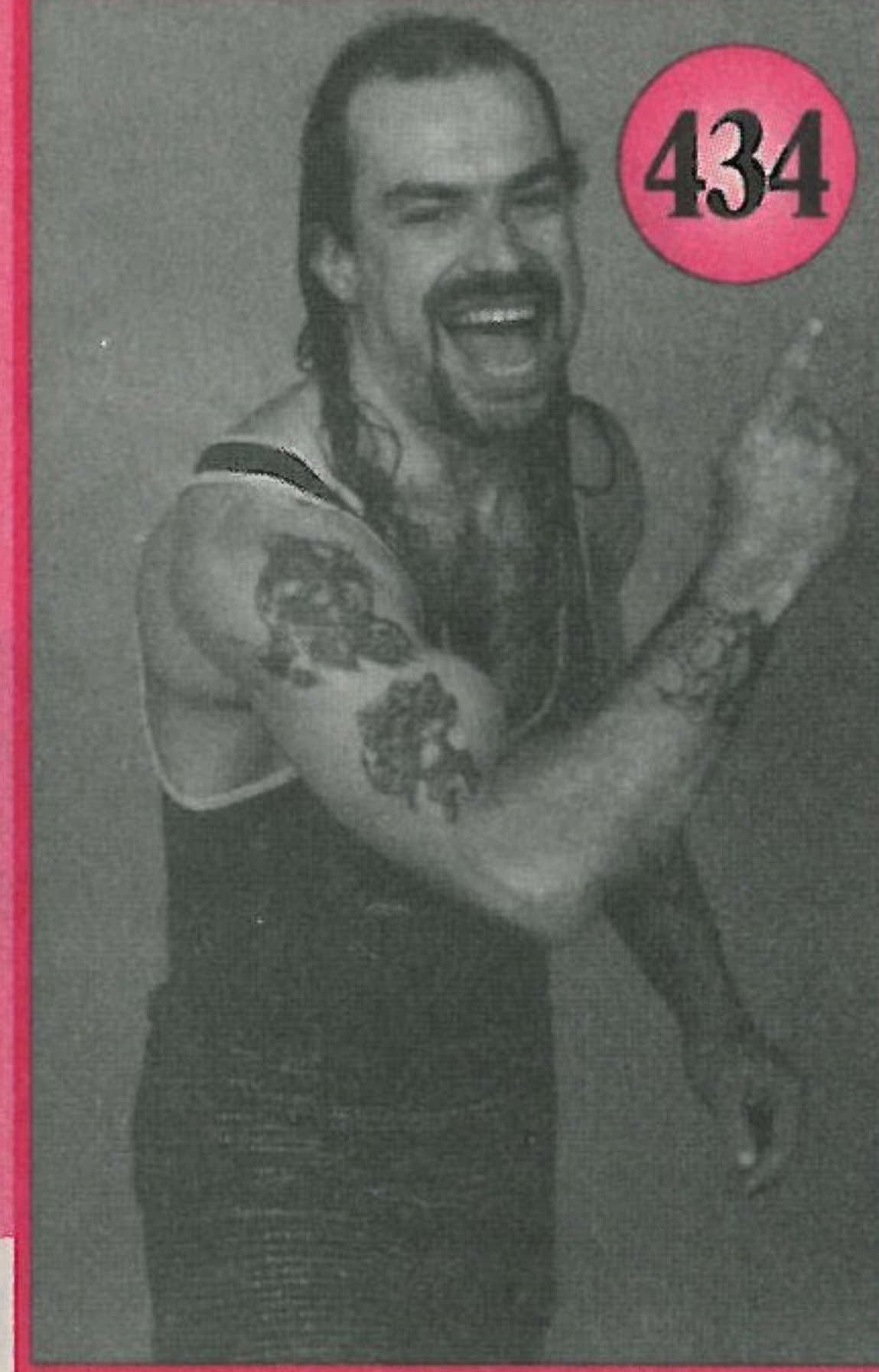
426 GARY ROYAL (5'10", 220, 19, 437) Left Carolina Championship Wrestling for the North American Wrestling Alliance and a few other Carolina independents ... Feuding with "Carolina's Own" David Isley ... Reached his peak in the mid-1980s while competing in the NWA Mid-Atlantic and Georgia areas.

427 MAD DOG JOHNSON (6'1", 258, 19, NL) Competing in Mid-South and Texas' Pro Wrestling International ... Has toured South Africa several times ... In fact, he was proclaimed the "beer-drinking champion of South Africa" in 1994 ... Banned in the Far East for attacking referee Mehar Singh ... A brawler with no respect for the rules ... Trained by Johnny Valentine ... Occasionally compared to Bruiser Brody.

428 PETE LOTHARIO (6'1", 220, 1, NL) Managed by his father, Jose ... Competes in Texas' Pro Wrestling International ... Feuding with Mad Dog Johnson, a sworn enemy of his dad ... Teams with Manuel Villalobos and Bobby Perez ... Planned to make his debut in Mid-South this summer and in Mexico this fall ... Has an acrobatic style similar to that of family friend Shawn Michaels.

429 ADRIAN LYNCH (6'2", 297, 3, NL) British-born competitor prides himself on being labeled "the most obnoxious man in wrestling" by some of his critics ... He and "Dominating" Danny Dominion are the Nu-Age tag team champions ... Wrestles chiefly in the Midwest ... A long-time enemy of "Scrap Iron" Adam Pearce ... Claims that after every victory, he spray-paints his name on area mobile homes ... Quite agile for a near-300-pounder.

430 PAUL ATLAS (5'10", 215, 8, 483) Recently won the Pro Wrestling Xpress/NWA East tag team title with Brian Anthony ... The leader and most outspoken member of The Wrong Crowd, which also includes Anthony, Jimmy Anjel, and Mr. Big ... A mainstay in PWX/NWA East since September 1995 ... Uses powerful suplexes and favors the superkick as his finisher ... One of the most hated wrestlers in PWX ... Holds victories over Stevie Richards and Lou Marconi.



Terik the Great's cruising along in Heartland

431 THE GIANT WARRIOR (7', 340, 5, NL) Competes in African independents ... Known for his tremendous size and painted face ... Has wrestled in the U.S., and made a considerable impact in Puerto Rico a few years ago.

432 SEBASTIAN KANE (6'5", 331, 9, 392) He and Scott Powers are the East Coast Championship Wrestling tag team titleholders ... They are known as The Diamond Express ... Managed by Steve Diamond ... Feuding with The Heartbreak Express and the team of Wendell Smooth and K.C. Thunder ... His signature move is the gorilla-press slam ... Has competed up and down the East Coast, but mainly in the Mid-Atlantic region ... Nicknamed "Big Daddy."

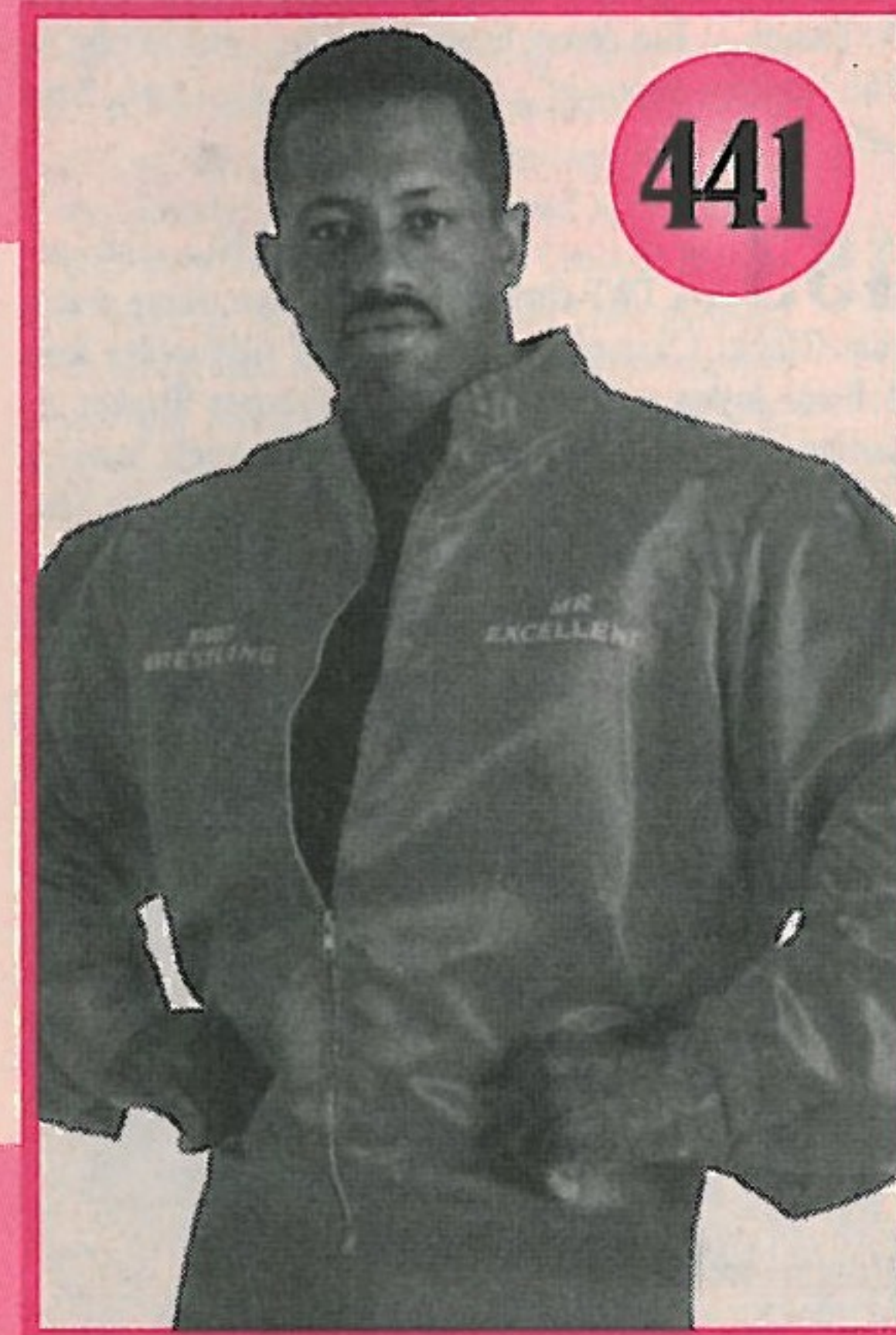
433 DOUG FLEX (6'2", 293, 9, NL) Andreas, Pennsylvania, native is well-known and very popular in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley ... Flex's size, strength, and experience make him an opponent to be reckoned with ... Tough to take off his feet ... Formed a successful tag team with Brick Bronsky in the past ... Has scored several big wins in Int'l Pro Wrestling and is often managed by G.Q. Bronsky ... Successfully rehabilitated a serious knee injury ... Has issued an open challenge to any wrestler rated higher than him in this year's "PWI 500" to meet him in IPW.

434 TERIK THE GREAT (5'10", 188, 5, NL) The Heartland Wrestling Association cruiserweight champion ... Has been feuding with American Kickboxer for three years, although they do team when the situation requires it ... Also competes in the International Wrestling Association, NWA, and independents in Mississippi, Indiana, Pittsburgh, and Detroit ... Has overcome a crushed elbow, five black eyes, and a bruised spine as a result of his high-flying style ... Doesn't have to concern himself with Doug Flex's challenge.

435 RIKKI NELSON (5'11", 210, 12, NL) Insists on being called "The Heartthrob" ... Hated by fans wherever he wrestles ... A former Carolina Championship Wrestling titleholder ... Very fast and agile ... Rivals include GAWF U.S. champ J.D. Sullivan, Kevin Kirby, and Colt Steele.

436 DONOVAN MORGAN (5'11", 210, 2, NL) The top contender to APW Universal champion "La Migra" Maxx Justice ... Earned his nickname, "The Suicide Machine," by flying over a ringpost and opening a deep wound over his right eye ... Although drenched in blood, he rallied to win the match ... Once defeated Erin O'Grady for the APW light heavyweight title ... Recently competed in a non-televvised WCW Monday Nitro card.

437 BYRON WALKER (5'11", 210, 4, 485) Defeated Japan's Ultraman Robin for the vacant AIWA California State title earlier in the year ... Lost that belt, but won the AIWA tag team title with Crayz I, with whom he regularly teams ... As Da Neighborhoodz, the duo has dominated southern California tag wrestling for four years ... Beat "Beautiful" Jack Stud, his arch-enemy for the past four years, in a falls-count-anywhere match at Slamfest '98, the first wrestling card held at UCLA ... Formerly known as Tech 9.



Mr. Excellent obviously has a healthy ego

438 JIM V (5'8", 188, 5, 422) This popular, high-flying youngster recently regained the Global Wrestling Alliance light heavyweight title by defeating Mr. Main Event of Hotseat Productions ... Has had many memorable matches with Reckless Youth ... The 450 splash has won him many matches ... One of Ohio's best light heavyweights.

439 CHRIS KRUEGER (6'2", 225, 2, NL) The Hollywood, California, native is known as "The Celebrity" ... Competes in Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling and several other independents ... A member of the clique The Rulebreakers ... His finishing hold is "The Hollywood Minute," his version of the "Texas Cloverleaf" ... Offering \$5,000 to anyone who escapes the hold in less than 60 seconds.

440 KEVIN KIRBY (5'11", 230, 9, 449) Lost 60 pounds in an effort to improve his speed and agility ... Competes in six Mid-Atlantic independents ... Capable mat wrestler, but can brawl if forced ... Popular with the fans ... Ranked number 500 in 1995's "PWI 500."

441 MR. EXCELLENT (6'1", 225, 2, 367) The Classic Wrestling Association heavyweight champion ... Made a big impact in his rookie year by win-

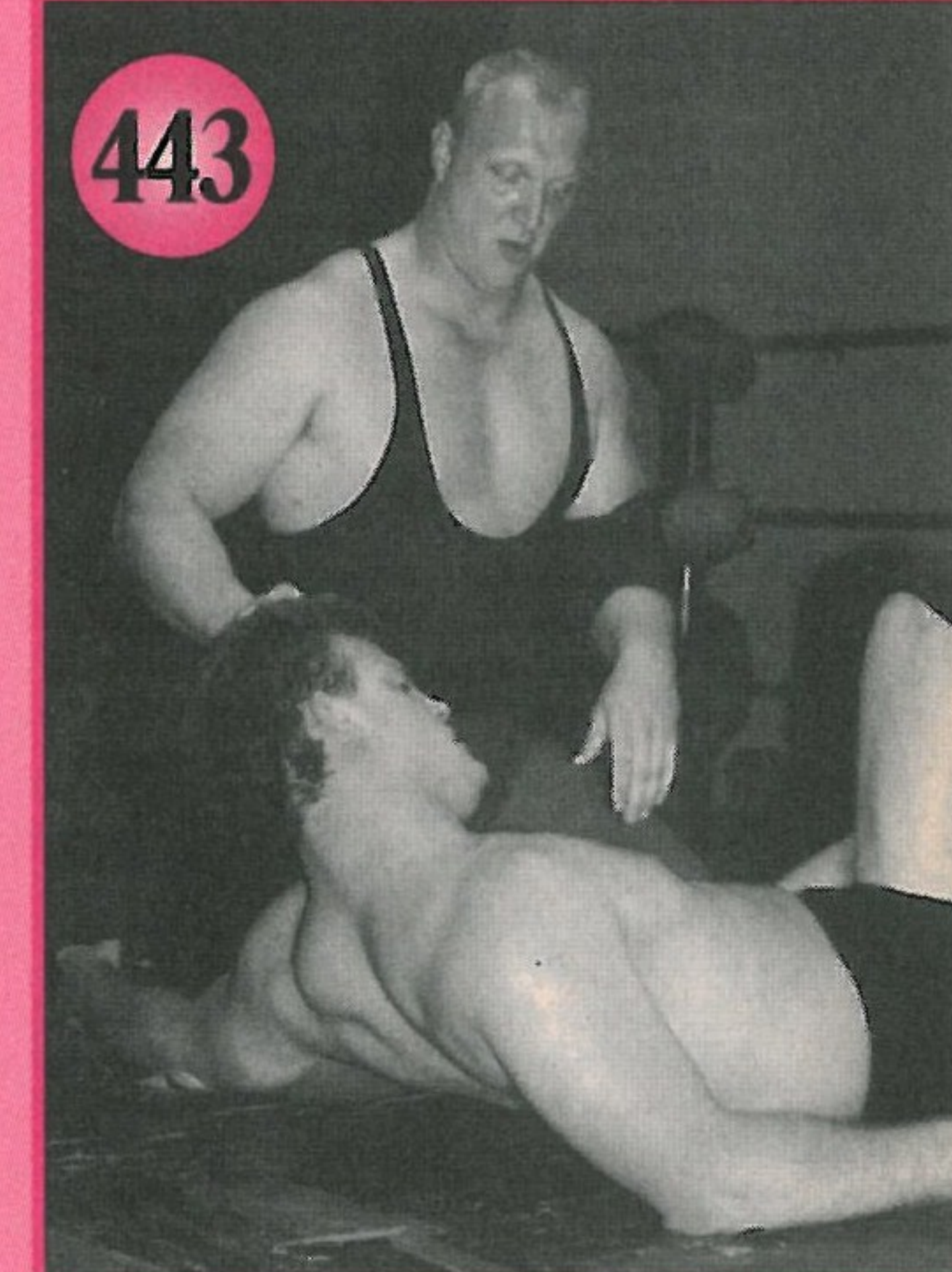
ning the New Dimension Wrestling U.S. title ... Feuding with Jack Spade and Dale Porter ... Often teams with Wendell Smooth ... Also competes in Southern Championship Wrestling and Virginia-Carolina Wrestling ... The "power-plex" is his finisher.

442 BRICK BRONSKY (6'1", 254, 13, 354) Won a one-night tournament to become the first Int'l Pro Wrestling heavyweight champion ... Above-average mat wrestler with a devastating clothesline ... Previously competed in the Mid-Atlantic and Calgary Stampede territories ... One-time member of The Brat Pack with Doug Flex and G.Q. Bronsky, but fell out of favor after losing the IPW title ... Moved to California to concentrate on his movie career while recovering from back and neck injuries suffered when G.Q. turned against him and nailed him with a metal chair ... Fans of Bronsky call themselves the "Brick Clique."

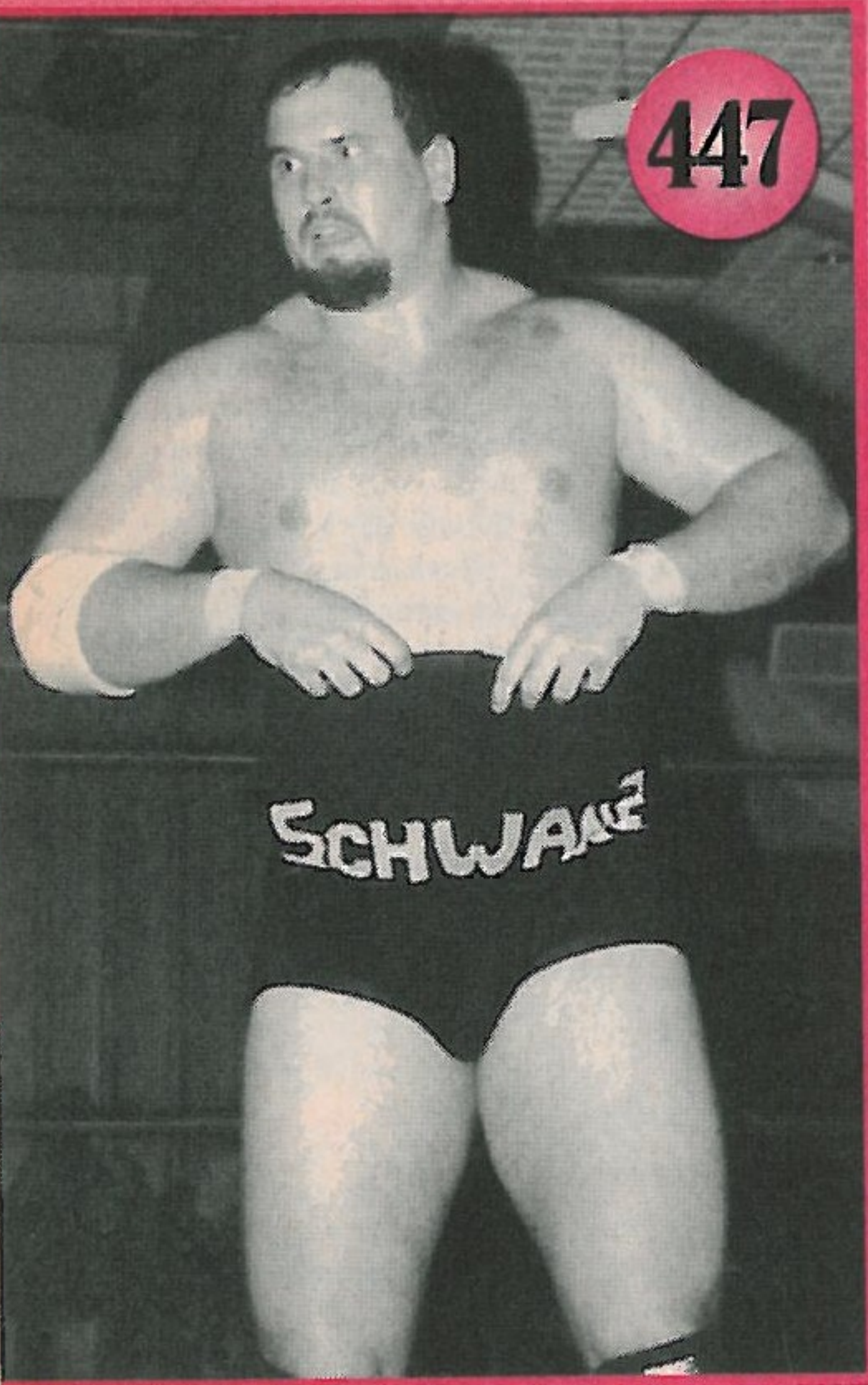
443 MAXX JUSTICE (6'5", 303, 5, NL) The current APW Universal champion ... Claims to hate Mexicans and had a short feud with El Chicano Flame just because of his ethnicity ... Managed by Shane Dynasty ... Recently choke-slammed "Vicious" Vic Grimes through two chairs onto the concrete floor, then power-slammed him through the ring ... A former football player for Missouri State University ... Nicknamed "La Migra."

444 DAVE RENEGADE (6'2", 320, 5, NL) Holds the Atlantic Coast tag team title with Bam Bam Coalson ... They are known as The Ringbusters ... The duo held the Mid-Atlantic tag belts for a remarkable three years ... Considered "The Enforcer" for The Mafia, a rulebreaking clique ... Managed by The Godfather ... Skilled in military combat and the martial arts ... Hails from Wilmington, North Carolina.

445 BLACK EAGLE (5'11", 174, 1, NL) The Northern Championship Wrestling TV champion is an up-and-coming high-flyer ... Has become very popular during the past year ... Scored upset victories over Golem the Giant and Guy Williams ... Would have won the NCW Rookie of the Year Award if The Cosa Nostra didn't have such a hot year.



Justice prevails over Chris Ward



Schwanz is enjoying a fine rookie campaign

446 DON BASHER (6', 302, 13, 408) The Wild Championship Wrestling Outlaws titleholder is feuding with Rob Ramer ... Aligned with Billy Bart and "Gentleman" Johnnie Walker ... Competes in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee ... Known as the "Dangerous Bull" ... Hails from the Black Hills of South Dakota.

447 OTTO SCHWANZ (6'4", 287, 1, NL) Captured the North Carolina State title in his rookie year ... Competes in SCW, SSW, the NWA, Omega Pro, and ICW ... Managed by Count Grog ... Teams frequently with Olof Eiers ... Feuding with Venom ... His favorite move is the "swinging Schwanz" ... Hometown is Blasmireinen, Germany.

448 SHANE SHADOWS (6'2", 229, 6, 492) Feuding with Switchblade in Championship Pro Wrestling ... Agreed to team with Switchblade in January, only to be nailed with a metal chair ... Doc Hollywood, Switchblade's manager, has hired several wrestlers in the past—including Jimmy Cicero and Julio Sanchez—to try to end Shadows' career ... Former National Wrestling League champion.

449 RICHIE SANTAGO (5'10", 215, 7, NL) Returned to WWC after being out several years ... Previously wrestled as El Corsario ... Is currently a member of the Justice Army, which he joined upon returning to action ... Had an outstanding match against Jerry Estrada last year ... Is a top contender to the WWC junior heavyweight championship ... A young, but very talented wrestler ... Began career as a masked wrestler, but has achieved most of his success without it.

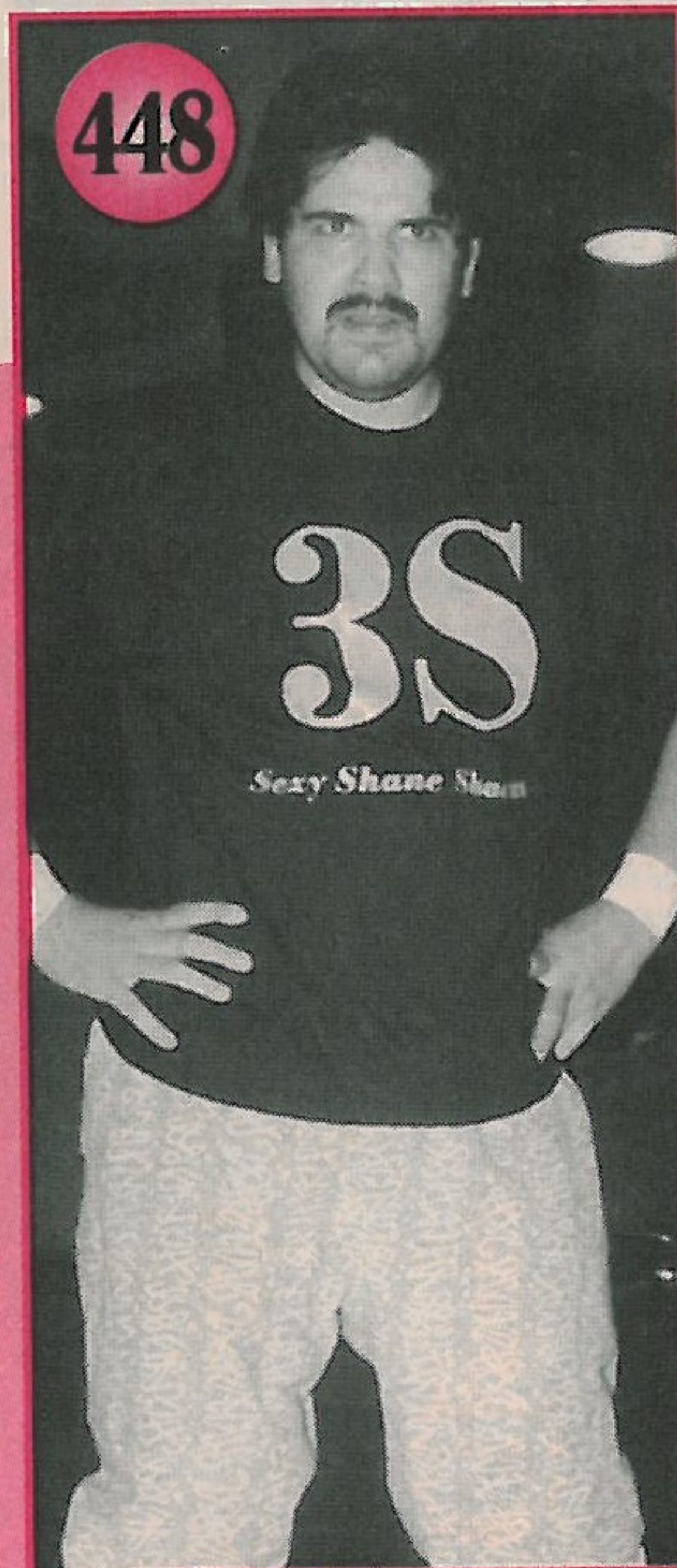
450 JACK STUD (6', 227, 6, 475) Took the AIWA belt to Southern California Championship Wrestling with him ... Now pursuing the SCCW title ... Has been feuding with Tech 9 for four years ... Also having

problems with Sheriff Jess Hansen ... Once defeated Peter Maivia Jr. for the CCW South Pacific championship ... Uses an elbow from the top rope as his finisher ... Nicknamed "Beautiful" Jack

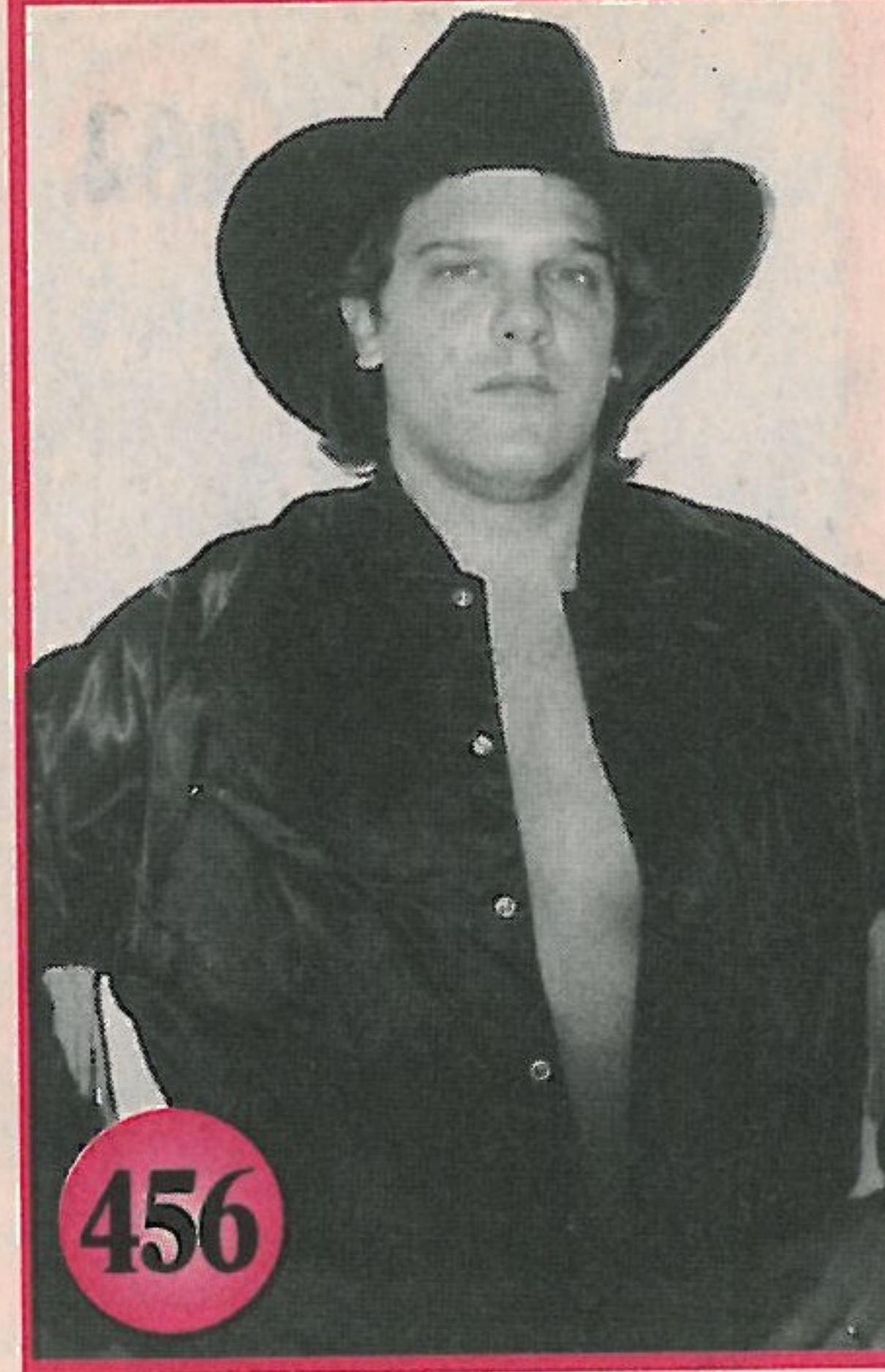
451 EIGHT-BALL JONES (6', 230, 4, NL) Appalachian Mountain champion "Playboy" Bryan Wayne threw a fireball in his face not too long ago ... Jones has been chasing Wayne all over Tennessee ever since ... The feud has transformed him from a man despised by the fans to a favorite ... A former Tennessee Mountain champ ... Holds victories over Rick Morton, Tracey Smothers, Tony Anthony, Mongolian Stomper, and Tim Horner (his trainer).

452 ROBERT ROMA (5'11", 203, 4, 470) Has held the American Independent Wrestling Federation light heavyweight and U.S. titles ... Was hated when he first joined The Tennessee Violence Authority ... Now he and the TVA are enjoying fan support as they battle The Family ... Has decent technical skills ... His finisher is "The Northern Exposure" ... Hails from Long Island, New York.

453 NIGHTBREED (5'9", 300, 9, NL) The current TWF champion ... Has been taking orders from Global Championship Wrestling titleholder Rob McBride in his war against Trooper Stryker ... Married to Lady Mystique ... Guides his "Midnight Sons," a group of masked wrestlers that includes Tenju, Rising Sun, Hazard, Homicide, and Ronin ... Recently signed to compete in Independent Championship Wrestling.



Shadows has been stabbed in the back by Switchblade



Lovin life in Ohio and Pennsylvania

454 BOB STARR (6', 238, 3, NL) Based in the Mid-Eastern Wrestling Federation, where he has won the tag team title with Lucifer and D.C. Danger ... Has teamed with The Honky Tonk Man on several occasions ... Recently had a tough match against George "The Animal" Steele ... Nicknamed "Playboy" ... Native of Malibu Beach, California.

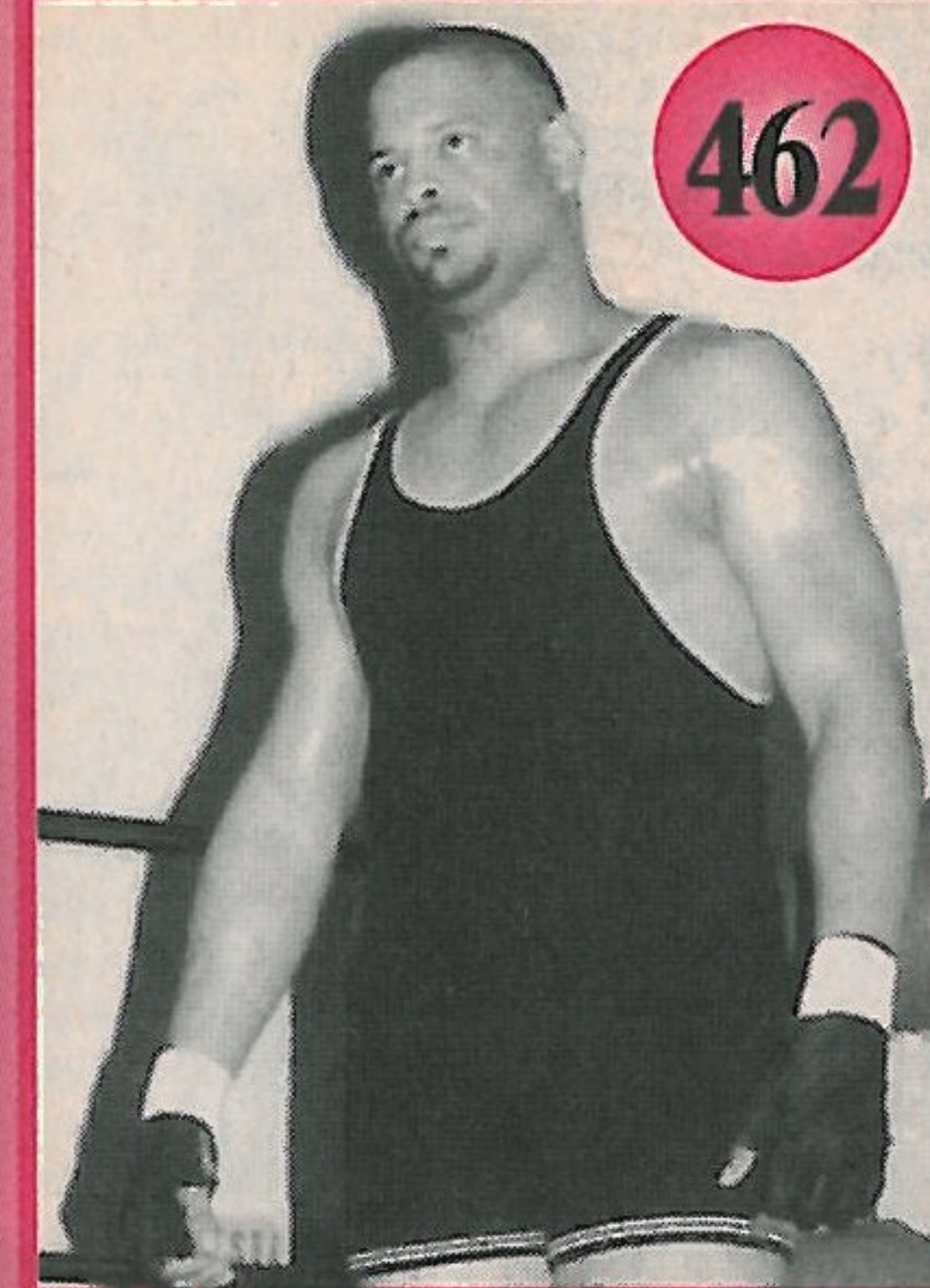
455 RATBOY (5'10", 225, 2, 406) Has reigned as National Wrestling Council champion for more than a year ... Holds the Virginia-Carolina tag title with former enemy D.C. Queen ... They are called The Rude Boyz ... Known as Rage while in The Army of Aggression ... Turned against his partner, Fury, while in Music City ... The "Cat Trap" is his finisher ... Has competed in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

456 JEFF LOVIN (5'11", 212, 7, NL) Competes in the South, along with partner Scott Sterling ... Once known as The Young Guns, they are now demanding to be called "The Artists Formerly Known As The Young Guns" ... The duo has captured the SSW, SCW, AMW, SWA, and SWF tag team titles ... Lovin has also held both singles and tag team titles in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

457 TERRI MIDDoux (6', 250, 6, NL) The most dangerous threat to International Wrestling Federation champion Paul Lloyd ... Once won a silver medal in judo at the Olympics ... Won Africa and Australia's King of the Ring competition four times ... A native of France.

458 BAM BAM COALSON (6'5", 370, 8, NL) Holds the Atlantic Coast tag team title with Dave Renegade ... They are known as The Ringbusters ... Undefeated in ACCW ... His only loss occurred in the Mid-Atlantic area, where he was defeated by The Barbarian ... A native of Wilmington, North Carolina.

459 SCORPION (6'1", 245, 7, NL) A masked competitor who claims to be from Mexico ... This International Wrestling Federation star wrestles in Africa and the Middle East ... A contender to the IWF title held by Paul Lloyd ... A very aggressive wrestler who prefers high-risk moves.



Jones was a collegiate standout

460 INDIANA KIDD JR. (6'1", 210, 3, 497) He and The Midnight Rocker, known collectively as The Rocker Express, are the Wild Championship Wrestling Outlaws tag team titleholders ... Currently feuding with "Gentleman" Johnnie Walker and The Convict ... The duo's finisher is the "Rocker Drop" ... A three-time former WCWO light heavyweight champ ... Native of Indianapolis.

461 JACKIE ANDERSON (5'10", 195, 14, NL) Austin, Texas, native is feuding with The Family and Generation X in the American Independent Wrestling Federation ... Still hated by fans because of his foul tactics ... Has held the AIWF U.S. and tag team titles.

462 TONY JONES (6'4", 285, 2, NL) Former All-Pro Wrestling tag team champ with Michael Modest ... Their future together is uncertain, as Modest is recovering from an injury ... Nicknamed "The Shooter" ... An NCAA Division II champion at San Francisco State University ... Likes to use inside cradles and piledrivers ... His finishing move is a belly-to-belly suplex from the top rope ... Has also held the tag championship with Steve Rizzano and Jay Smooth.

463 BRIAN FURY (5'10", 240, 4, 416) "The Beautiful One" is the NSWA TV champion ... Defeated Greg Valentine for that belt ... His manager, The Producer, carries a mirror to ringside so Fury can admire himself ... Feuding with Crusher Kline over the Global Wrestling Alliance title as well ... Wants a shot at the NSWA heavyweight title ... This member of Hotseat Productions calls himself "the most beautiful man on television."

464 ECWA VIPER (5'10", 240, 15, 390) This masked competitor is never without his trusty baseball bat ... Embroiled in a bitter feud with former ally Thunder ... Often sneak-attacks Thunder and partner J.R. Ryder while they're wrestling ... Former ECWA tag team and heavyweight champion ... Has also targeted Glen Osbourne ... Occasionally wrestles in PCW.

465 CALAVERA CORTEZ (6', 217, 5, NL) "King Of The Night-Time World" is a contender to Jimi V's Global Wrestling Alliance light heavyweight title ... Feuding with Larry Destiny and former Los Rudos partner Ricco Rodrigues ... An elbows-mash from the top rope and the "Calavera Crunch" are his finishers ... Competes in the Midwest and Canada.

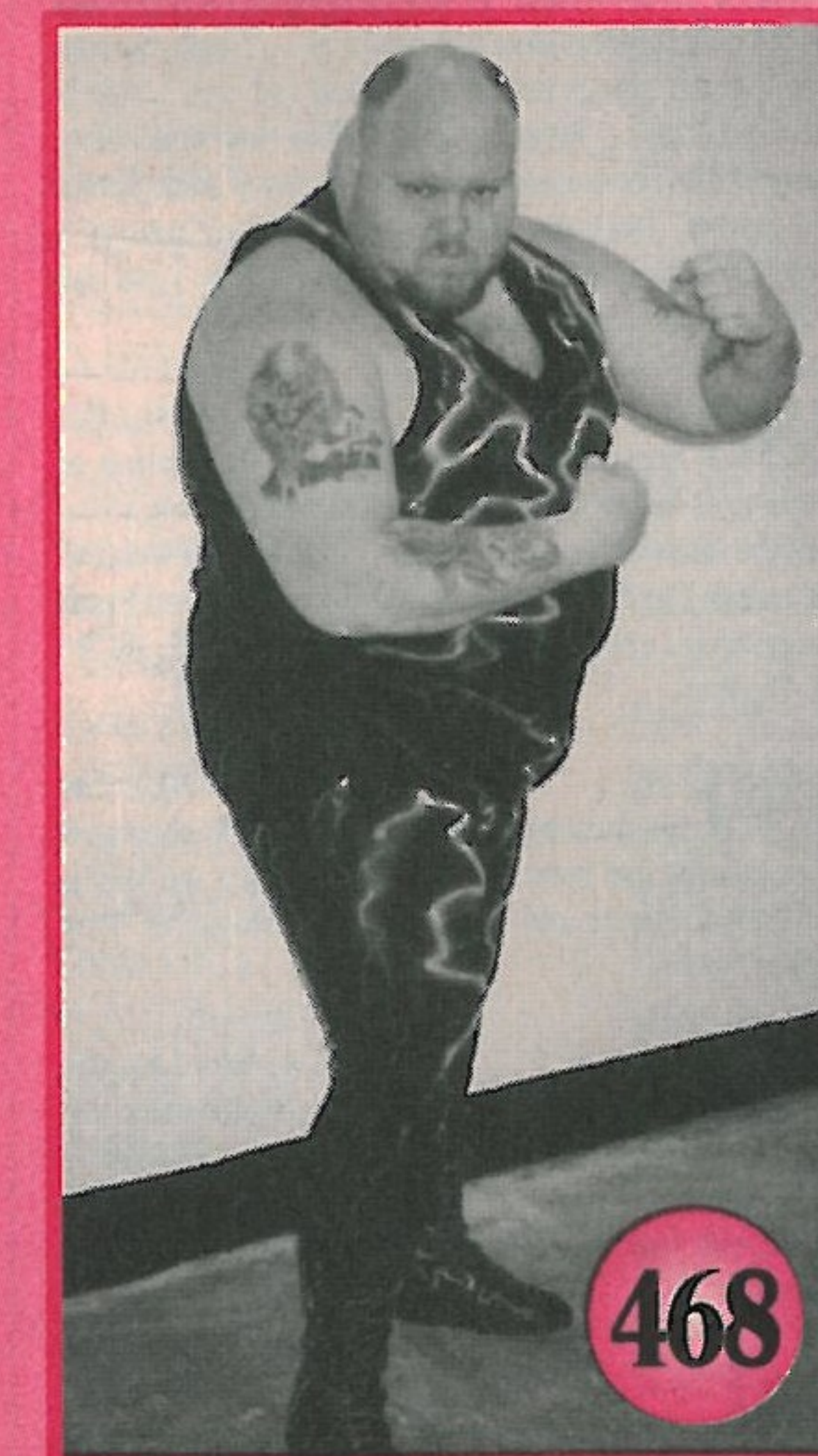
466 SLICKY BOY (5'10", 222, 2, NL) Rulebreaking native of Upper Manhattan, New York ... Wrestles in a tuxedo and makes sure that his hair is always in place—even in the middle of his matches ... Good technical wrestler who prefers to concentrate his offense on his opponents' legs ... Turned against partner Jack Hammer, costing them a chance at winning the MECW tag team titles ... Recently conducted a nationwide search for a new valet.

467 PETE ROKK (5'9", 240, 1, NL) The current Renegade Wrestling Alliance champion ... Has had a phenomenal run in his rookie year ... Feuding with The Hollywood Hunks ... His power and determination have been the big keys to his success ... Hometown is Brantford, Ontario.

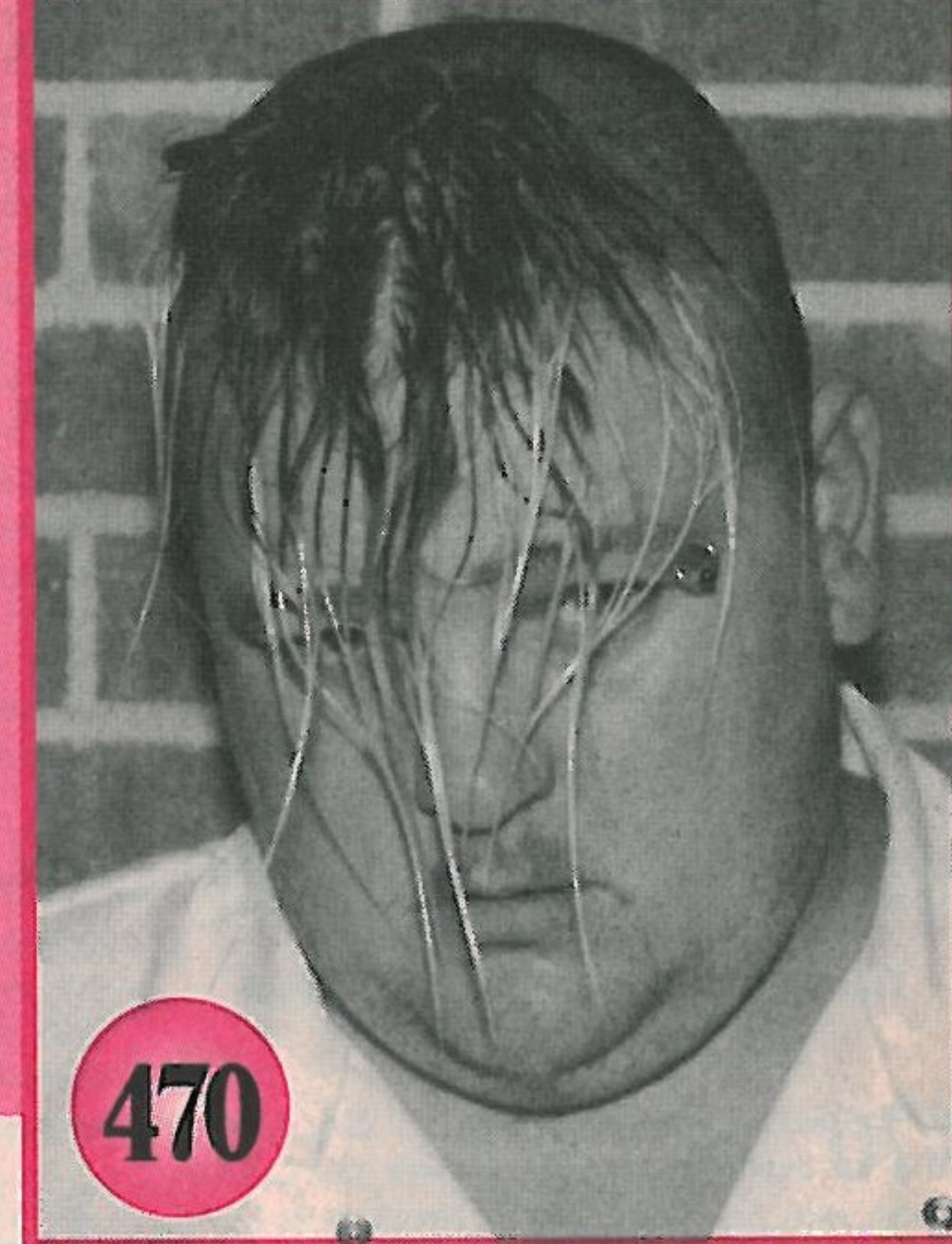
468 BIG SLAM (6'3", 440, 9, NL) Once choke-slammed Jimmy Cicero through the ring in Louisburg, North Carolina ... Teams with Cueball Carmichael ... Feuding with King Kong Bundy ... Often compared to Vader ... Competes primarily on the East Coast in promotions such as the NWA, Southern Championship Wrestling, and the International Professional Wrestling Association ... Has held the IPWA, USCW, and ACW titles.

469 BILLY BART (5'10", 242, 5, 418) Recently caused Rob Ramer to lose the Wild Championship Wrestling Outlaws title to Don Basher ... In his feud with Ramer, has aligned himself with Basher and "Gentleman" Johnnie Walker ... A former WCWO champion ... The bulldog is his finisher ... Competes in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

470 CRAZY JOE (5'9", 255, 10, NL) Holds the Mid-South tag team title with John Saxon ... They are known as The Hardtime Experience ... Though sadistic, he is popular with Mid-South fans ... Agile despite



Vader look-alike Big Slam



Crazy Joe is a "Hardtimer" from Rikers Island

his paunchy appearance ... Likes matches that involve barbed wire and kendo sticks ... Feuded with the Armstrongs early in his career ... Hails from Rikers Island, New York.

471 ROB NOXIOUS (5'8", 207, 3, NL) Pennsylvania native was trained by Steve Blackman ... As his name indicates, Rob is often obnoxious when dealing with fans, opponents, and even referees ... Very powerful for a man his size ... Likes to work on one body part in order to wear his opponent down ... Good powerslam ... Recently managed by Harvey Wippleman, who has taken quite an interest in Noxious.

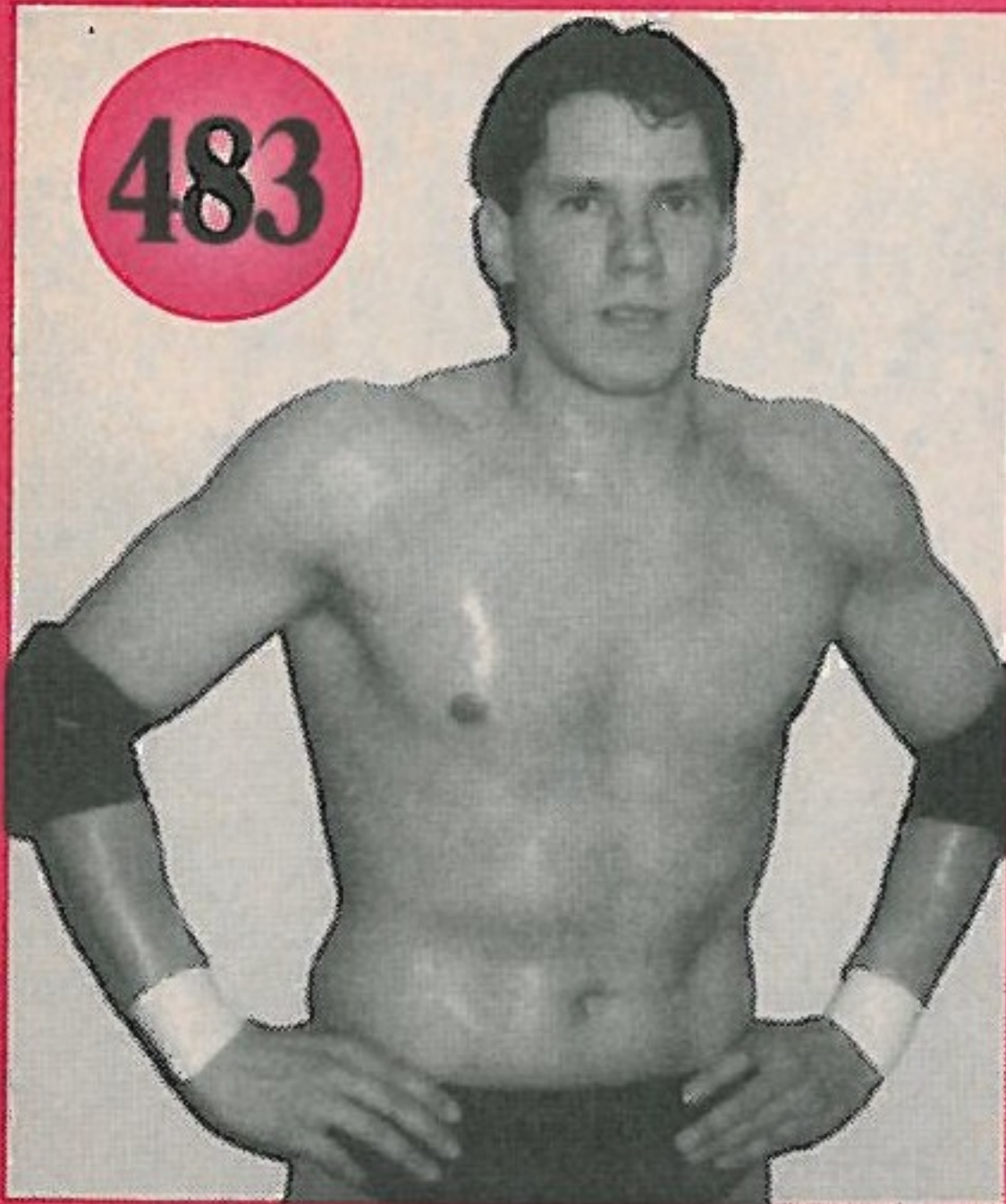
472 MORGUS THE MANIAC (6'3", 233, 8, 441) A patient at the Bellevue State Hospital, where he receives therapy but has made very little progress ... Has little or no regard for the rules and has been known to attack referees as well as tag team partners ... Comes to the ring in a straitjacket and is accompanied by a private doctor and nurse ... Currently the top contender to the Mid-Eastern Championship Wrestling heavyweight title ... Also a top contender in the National Wrestling League ... Wrestles primarily in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

473 WILD CHILD (6', 220, 4, 474) Competes in the HWA, CWF, SCW, and CCW ... Has held the Hardcore Wrestling Alliance U.S. title, along with the CWF cruiserweight and tag team belts ... Started wrestling at age 15 ... Favorite moves are the piledriver and a bulldog from the top rope.

474 TOMBSTONE (6', 302, 5, NL) The Continental Wrestling Federation champion, Tombstone has yet to taste defeat in that promotion ... Formerly known as Nitro ... Changed his name and attitude after winning the title ... Now the most hated rulebreaker in the CWF ... Likes to team with NWA National champion Doug Gilbert ... Combines power with technical ability.

475 RAIDEN (5'11", 222, 1, NL) He and Frankie the Mobster surprised everyone in Northern Championship Wrestling by winning the Quebec tag team championship three times this year ... They are known as The Cosa Nostra ... Like Frankie, he held the NCW TV title this year ... Popular throughout the province.

483



Thinking about Rik Ratchet Knight and day

476 LARRY DESTINY (6'3", 226, 2, 489) Improving with every match, this London, Ontario, native has made a name for himself in the Global Wrestling Alliance ... Feuding with Calavera Cortez ... Uses a devastating dropkick from the top rope ... A top contender to Crusher Kline GWA heavyweight title.

477 CHRIS CANNON (5'10", 201, 2, NL) Charlotte native teams regularly with K.C. Thunder, with whom he feuded during the first year of his career ... They are known as The Beach Patrol ... Has a stinging right hand and always seems to be smiling ... His nickname is "Iceman" ... Plays a pro wrestler in the made-for-TV movie *Angel With A Kick* ... His partner also makes an appearance.

478 ROMEO BLISS (6', 232, 1, NL) Defeated Jimmy Golden to become the top contender to the Appalachian Mountain Wrestling Southeastern title ... He and Southeastern champ George Youngblood have feuded all over the South in 11 different organizations ... Both men have suffered several injuries as a result ... Enjoys teaming with Ricky Harrison and Bryan Wayne ... Has held the SCW U.S. and TCW Tennessee state titles ... Played football at Arizona State University.

479 BOBBY SECHRIST (6'3", 275, 12, NL) This competitor also serves as the commissioner of Virginia-Carolina Wrestling ... Defeated Rick Morton for the VCW title ... Lost to The Hollywood Kid, then sustained a neck injury when Psycho and The Doctor attacked him with a brick-loaded briefcase ... That incident turned the vicious rulebreaker into a fan favorite ... Put former Doctor's Camp member George Hayes out of wrestling ... "Slingshot" small package is his finisher.

480 PRINCE OF AFRICA (6'4", 248, 5, NL) Competes throughout Africa ... His real name is Robson Kapora ... Claims to be a member of Zimbabwe's royal family ... Popular with the fans ... His height and reach advantages make his clotheslines and dropkicks especially devastating.

481 DOUG DEEDS (6'1", 235, 6, NL) Martinsburg, West Virginia, native wrestles mainly in Virginia, Maryland, and his home state ... Extremely skilled scientific wrestler ... He can also surprise opponents with high-flying moves such as a cross-body-block from the top rope ... Possesses a devastating dropkick as well ... A construction worker by trade, Deeds often wears his tool belt and hard hat into the ring before matches ... Has feuded with Switchblade.

482 MOHAMMED KANE (6'6", 321, 10, NL) Leader of The Nation of Kane, which also includes Combat Kid and manager Spike Callahan ... Has targeted former Nation member and current Championship Pro Wrestling titleholder Major Mayhem ... Also having problems with Juggernaut ... One of the most hated wrestlers in West Virginia.

483 KEVIN KNIGHT (6'4", 230, 2, NL) Lost to Rik Ratchet in his May 1996 debut and has been feuding with him ever since ... Competes in the NWA, American Wrestling Council, and Independent Wrestling Federation ... Past advisers include Jim Cornette and Marlena ... Lost to Mabel in April ... Uses the "Michinoku Driver" or the spinning heel kick to finish off opponents ... His favorite tag team partner is IWF champion Don Montoya.

484 KID U.S.A. (6'1", 230, 3, NL) Showed promise in recent matches against Demolition Ax, Nikolai Volkoff, Greg Valentine, Larry Brisco, Glen Osbourne, and Metal Maniac ... Competes in the Northeast for the NWA, the Long Island Wrestling Federation, and the World of Unpredictable Wrestling ... Teams with Tony Atlas and Cousin Luke.

485 TOAD (5'10", 218, 2, NL) Teams with Lodi of Raven's Flock in the independents ... No other Flock members have joined him ... Competes in Southern Championship Wrestling and other regional independents ... His favorite move is the "Toad-sault" ... From Outer Banks, North Carolina.

486 SCOTT STERLING (6', 222, 7, NL) Competes in the South, along with partner Jeff Lovin ... Once known as The Young Guns, they are now calling themselves The Artists Formerly Known As The Young Guns ... The duo has captured the SSW, SCW, AMW, SWA, and SWF tag team titles ... Sterling is a former Appalachian champion.

487 J.L. STORM (6', 261, 3, NL) Hard-hitting rulebreaker is competing in North East Wrestling and several other independents ... Tough, no-nonsense wrestler who is not afraid to bend and even blatantly break the rules ... Referees have a hard time controlling Storm ... Most embarrassing moment occurred when Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake (The Disciple) locked Storm in a sleeperhold, then cut his hair after a match three years ago ... Storm would like a rematch.

488 BRIAN COSTELLO (6', 260, 16, NL) Has dominated the International Association of Wrestling as its heavyweight champion for more than a year ... In the midst of his fourth reign ... Still feuding with former partner The Iron Sheik ... Claims he retired Paul Roma by injuring his neck ... Has experience in the WWF, WCW, and All-Japan.

489 PAUL LLOYD (6', 240, 13, NL) The International Wrestling Federation champion for an amazing five years ... Competes in Africa, the Middle East, Russia, Europe, and Australia ... Also known as "Pink Panther."

490 BOB KELLER (6', 265, 4, NL) Lost the Championship Pro Wrestling Southeastern title to Combat Kid in January, thanks to Diablos Macabre's interference ... Known as "The Rock 'n' Roll Kid" ... Popular with fans ... Wants a shot at CPW champion Major Mayhem.

491 JOHN DIAMOND (6', 235, 5, NL) Holds the New Breed Wrestling U.S. and New England TV titles ... Founder of the Pittsburgh Steel Team, which briefly aided Shane Douglas in ECW ... His "new and

improved" team includes Rodney Allen and Primo Camera III, plus a fourth member to be announced later ... Fired manager Kenny Casanova and hired Missy Hyatt ... Casanova has aligned himself with Diamond's long-time enemy Tony DeVito ... Nicknamed "Jack-Master."

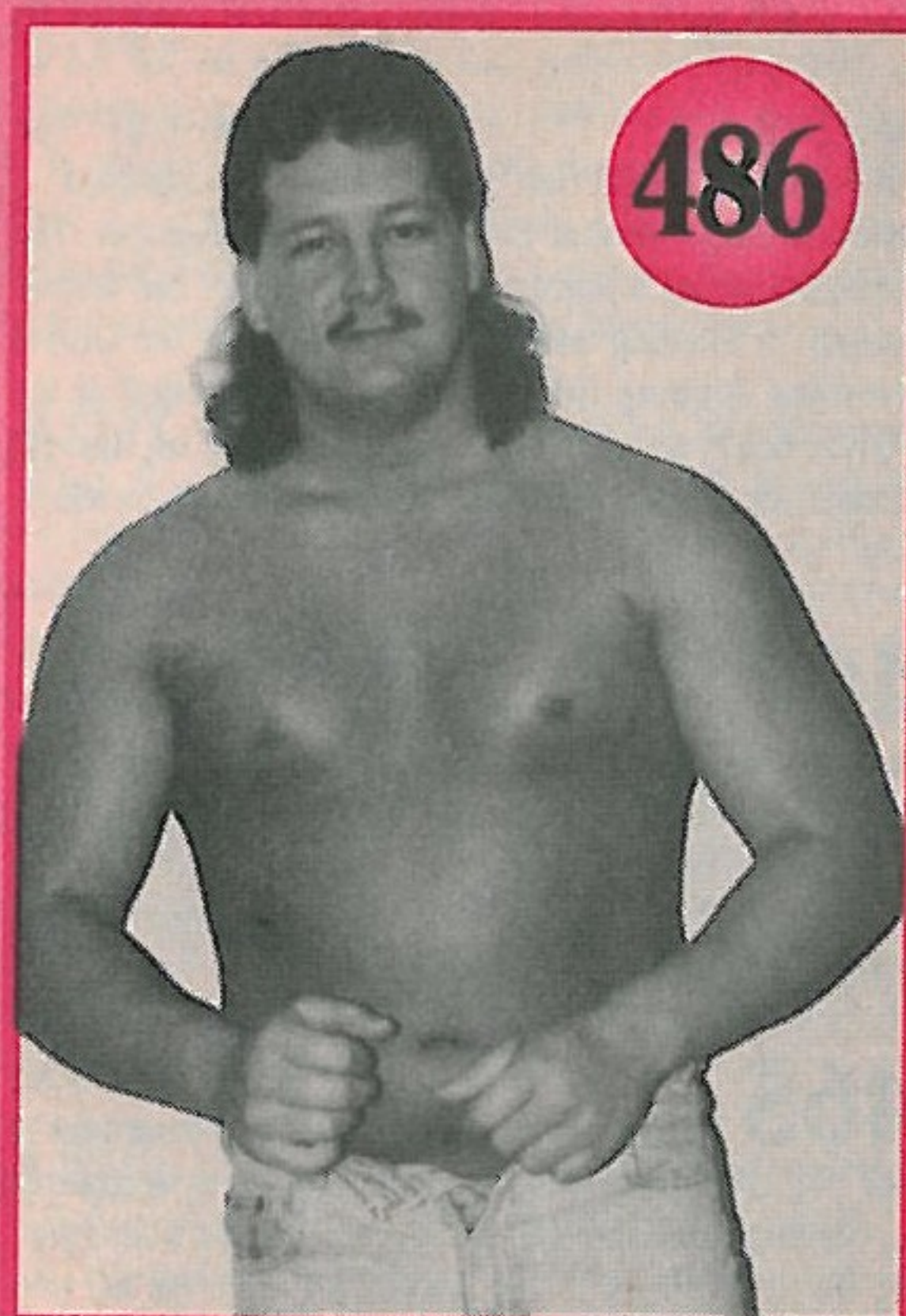
492 STEVE PODUNAVAC (6'2", 225, 28, NL) Has recently teamed with Tommy Gibson, The Wanderer, "Dangerous" Dan Christian, and "Big" Bob McCoy ... Each partnership has fizzled out ... Competes mainly in World Professional Wrestling ... A West Virginia mainstay who reached his peak in the 1970s ... He and The Cuban Assassin have been feuding since the '70s ... His most notable rivals were Al and Gene Madril.

493 RON STARR (5'10", 285, 3, NL) The reigning Grande Wrestling Alliance TV champion ... Managed by Lucky Larry ... Feuding with Psyclone and Mikey Raw in the GWA ... Engaged in an ongoing feud with Rolling Thunder throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey ... Lumberjack death strap bouts are their specialty matches of choice ... Nickname is "Mack Daddy" ... His finishing maneuver is the "style driver."

494 TY DALTON (6'1", 232, 3, NL) Won the Midwest title tournament on April 24 ... Has been feuding with Magic Inc. members The Magic Man and Pete Madden in Midwest Renegade Wrestling ... The two-year war has spanned five states ... While in California, wrestled then-All-Pro Wrestling Universal champ Robert Thompson ... Competed in the Northeast's WSWF ... Finishing maneuvers include the reverse brainbuster ("the Dalton driver") and a vertical suplex into a DDT ("the Dalton drop").

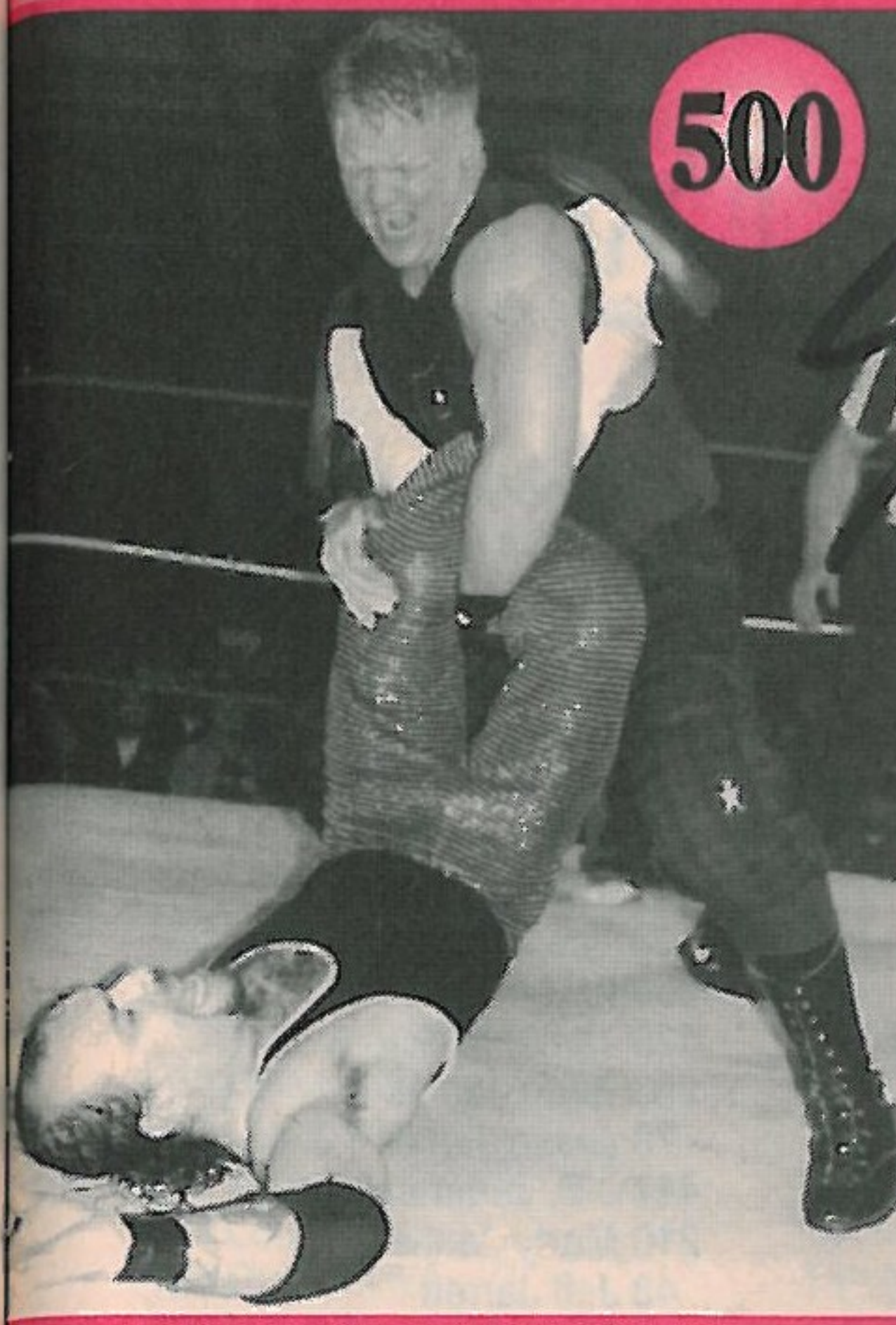
495 ROCKIN' RANDY (6', 218, 10, NL) Feuding with Jimmy Valiant in Indiana ... Has competed in the USWA, World Class, and various Texas independents ... His biggest rivalry was with Bill Dundee ... Defeated Jinnx for the Midwest title in October 1997, but lost the belt to "Electric" Eric Freedom in December ... Capable technical wrestler with a mean streak ... Hails from Mound, Minnesota.

496 MATTHEW MASTERS III (5'9", 175, 3, NL) Competes in the GWA, CIW, HWA, CPW, and ACCW, among other Midwest independents ... Occasionally teams with "The Expert" Brian Taylor ... Has



Sterling is pure gold in tag team action

500



Fairway makes life rough for Terik the Great

feuded with Shark Boy, Mike "Lightning" Fugate, and Bobby Kane ... A manager himself, he is accompanied by Kenny Brodin during his Louisville, Kentucky, matches ... D-Lo Brown's manager while D-Lo competed in Ohio indies.

497 MAD DOG O'MALLEY (6'4", 430, 5, NL) Has been battling Bob Starr and Morgus the Maniac in dog-collar matches throughout the Mid-Eastern Wrestling Federation circuit ... A former MEWF champ ... Also competes in the International Professional Wrestling Association and other Mid-Atlantic independents ... Notable opponents include The Iron Sheik, Nikolai Volkoff, Cactus Jack, Jimmy Snuka, Raven, The Headbangers, and The Honky Tonk Man.

498 ACCW VIPER (6'1", 260, 4, NL) Lost the Atlantic Coast title to Ballistic, with whom he now teams in battles against The Mafia ... They also plan to challenge Atlantic Coast tag team champions The Ringbusters (Bam Bam Coslow and Dave Renegade) in a series of matches ... The most popular wrestler in ACCW ... Finisher is the belly-to-belly suplex ... Hails from Saratoga, North Carolina.

499 RALPH MOSCA (6'1", 253, 3, NL) Known as "Rough House" Ralph Mosca in North East Wrestling ... Rulebreaker who likes to rough up opponents as much as possible ... Former amateur hockey player isn't afraid to throw a few punches ... Relies on brute force in the ring ... Currently a top contender to Tony DeVito's NEW TV title ... Feuding with both DeVito and John Diamond ... Power bomb is an effective finishing move for him.

500 CHIP FAIRWAY (5'10", 225, 2, NL) This golf enthusiast caused a stir by starting his career with a five-month undefeated streak and by winning the International Wrestling Association TV title from Cash Flo ... Also competes in the Heartland Wrestling Association and ACCW ... Wrestles occasionally in the WWF and WCW ... Considers his golf club, "Big Bertha," to be his personal valet ... His newest move is called the "Titanium Driver."

FAREWELL TO THE 500

The list of active wrestlers is always changing. Since last year's "PWI 500" came out, some wrestlers have migrated to different federations or changed their names. Others are now injured, inactive, or retired. Still others have been dropped from this year's survey for other reasons.

Keys are as follows: (D) deceased; (DL) disabled list; (I) inactive; (NC) name change; (NR) not rated; (R) retired.

Big Daddy Adams (NR)
Aggressor Fury (NC)
Aggressor Rage (NC)
American Kickboxer (NR)
Otis Apollo (NR)
Marc Ash (NR)
J.T. Atlas (NR)
Tony Atlas (NR)
Terry Austin (NR)
Billy Bart (NR)
Devlin Blanchard (NR)
Bobby Blaze (NR)
Tim Blaze (NR)
Bolo (NR)
Billy Briggs (NR)
Eddie Brown (NR)
Bunkhouse Buck (NR)
Tommy Cairo (NR)
Gino Caruso (NR)
Leif Cassidy (NC)
Cheetah Master (DL)
Riki Choshu (R)
Cien Caras (NR)
Bobby Clancy (NR)
Willie Clay Sr. (NR)
Falcon Coperis (I)
Shane Cortez (NR)
Countryboy Chris (NR)
Crush (NC)
Cybernetico (NR)
The Dangerman (NR)
DeathWish (I)
Johnny Dollar (NR)
Derek Domino (NR)
Dos Caras (NR)
Reggie B. Fine (NC/NR)
Flaming Youth (NR)
Steve Flynn (NR)
Mikki Free (NR)
Freedom Fighter (NR)
Pat Friday (NR)
Gator (NC)
D.Z. Gillespie (NR)
Goldust (NC)
Gorgeous George III (NR)
Johnny Graham (NR)
Cody Gunn (NR)
Adrian Hall (NR)
Halloween (NC)
Ox Harley (NR)
Bruce Hart (NR)

Chad Hart (NR)
Steve Hart (NR)
Mr. Hughes (NR)
Dr. Hurtz (NR)
Ice Train (NR)
Antonio Inoki (R)
David Jericho (NR)
Kevin Jones (NR)
Rocky Jones (NR)
Ben Jordan (NR)
Killer Kanareck (NR)
Jimmy Kane (NR)
Kodiak Bear (NR)
La Fierri (NR)
Phil Lafon (DL)
Paul Lauria (NR)
Joe E. Legend (NR)
Cruiser Lewis (NR)
Harley Lewis (NR)
Rick Link (NR)
Brian Logan (NR)
Lord Cult (NR)
Madd Maxxine (I)
Mascara Anos Dos Mil (NR)
Mascara Sagrada (NR)
Rick Matrix (NR)
Prof. Maxwell (NR)
Scotty McKeever (NR)
Mark Mest (NR)
Troy Mest (NR)
Metal Maniac (NR)
Tex Monroe (NR)
Mike Myers (NR)
Navajo Kid (NR)
Steve Nealy (NR)
Knuckles Nelson (NR)
Vance Navada (NR)
New Diesel (NC)
Bull Pain (NR)
Johnny Paradise (NR)
The Patriot (DL)
Pierroth Jr. (NR)
Brian Pillman (D)
The Pink Assassin (NR)
Jimmy D. Ranged (NR)
Ravishing Ronny (NR)
Rayo De Jalisco (NR)
Johnny Reb (NR)
Ricky Regal (NR)
Rikki Rhodes (NR)
Race Richards (NR)

Rhino Richards (NR)
Rockabilly (NC)
Ricky Rockett (NR)
Bubba Rogers (NC/NR)
Thomas Rodman (NR)
Rollin' Hard (NR)
Jerry Sags (DL)
Mike Samples (NR)
Satanico (NR)
Al Savage (NR)
Section 8 (NR)
Seminole Warrior (NR)
The Shadow (NR)
Pat Shamrock (NR)
Shiryu (NC)
Brimstone Shocker (NR)
Big E. Sleaze (D)
J.T. Smith (NR)
Son of Satan I (I)
Son of Satan II (I)
Salvatore Sincere (NC)
Jack Spade (NR)
Louie Spicolli (D)
Yvan P. St-Denis (NR)
Justin St. John (NR)
Chris Starr (NR)
Sheriff Steele (NR)
Chip Stetson (NR)
Rock Stevens (NR)
Kevin Sullivan (R)
The Sultan (NR)
Super Nova (NR)
Supreme (NR)
Syxx (NC)
Kiyoshi Tamura (NR)
Tech 9 (NC)
Timber the Lumberjack (NR)
Tower of Doom (NR)
Billy Travis (NR)
Tyren (NR)
P.G. Walker (NC)
The War Machine (NR)
Breyer Wellington (NR)
Wichita Willie (NR)
Wild Child (NR)
Wolf (NR)
Wayne Woo (NR)
Wrath (DL)
Kazuo Yamazaki (NR)
Yar (NR)

Other Autographs

OFFICIAL FAN BALLOT

Send ballot to: ACHIEVEMENT '98 VOTE • c/o PRO WRESTLING
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Or e-mail to: redpenbm@aol.com

Rookie of the Year:

Most Improved Wrestler of the Year:

Most Popular Wrestler of the Year:

Most Hated Wrestler of the Year:

Inspirational Wrestler of the Year:

Comeback Wrestler of the Year:

Manager of the Year:

Match of the Year:

Feud of the Year:

Tag Team of the Year:

Wrestler of the Year:

My "Unofficial Official" Award for 1998:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

NAME

AGE

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

We welcome any and all suggestions you may have, or added nominations for "Unofficial Official" Awards. Feel free to include extra remarks and awards on additional sheets of paper.

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had a very disappointing year, slipped 23 spots to 31st. Chris Benoit dropped the least, going from 10th to 19th, though listing him at 19th might have been a bit generous considering his record in big pay-per-view matches.

But then again, Benoit is clearly one of the best all-around wrestlers in the world, so we were justified in putting him in top 20, right?

Well, maybe I should amend what I said earlier. Choosing number one and number two in the "500" was easier this year than last. Choosing and ranking the other 498 was as difficult as ever.

THE YEAR-END THING

Another year has passed. Once again it's time for me to use this space to make a few simple requests of you. Now that the 1998 *PWI* 500 has been completed, we have to start thinking about our massive year-end issue. And that means it's time to start thinking about Achievement Awards.

That's where you come in.

As always, there are the major categories in which you need to cast votes; check out the story on page 81 for a rundown of the awards and the top candidates.

My job every year is to get you to do quite a bit more than cast votes for the awards. Here are your usual three additional assignments:

PREDICTIONS: What do you think will happen over the next 12 months? You can be serious or you can be silly, but I'd prefer if you were a little of both. Go on, get creative and be as outrageous as you want to be. Just look into your own personal crystal ball and let us all know what you see!

TOP 10 LISTS: In last year's March issue, Kylie McGowan of Worcester, Massachusetts, let us know all about the top 10 jobs Chyna held before she entered the WWF ("Relief map of Andes for fourth grade geography class" was my favorite). Chris Mason of Delphos, Ohio, gave us the names of the top 10 least intimidating wrestling gangs. And Jason Amos of Columbus, Indiana, checked in with the top 10 signs that you need to retire ("You refer to Ric Flair and Randy Savage as 'those young kids'" was number six).

Now that's the kind of stuff I want!

That's what I'm looking for again this year. Not a predictable list of the reasons why NWO Wolfpac is stronger than NWO Hollywood or the top 10 wrestlers DeGeneration X should

recruit. We want the creativity, humor, silliness, sarcasm, and originality we've come to expect from you. As long as they have something to do with wrestling, either in the ring or behind the scenes, we'll consider them for publication, but the more outrageous the better! Just keep 'em clean.

UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL AWARDS: This is just a reminder (we tell you more about them in that feature starting on page 81), but as long as you're sending in your predictions and lists, don't forget to send those awards!

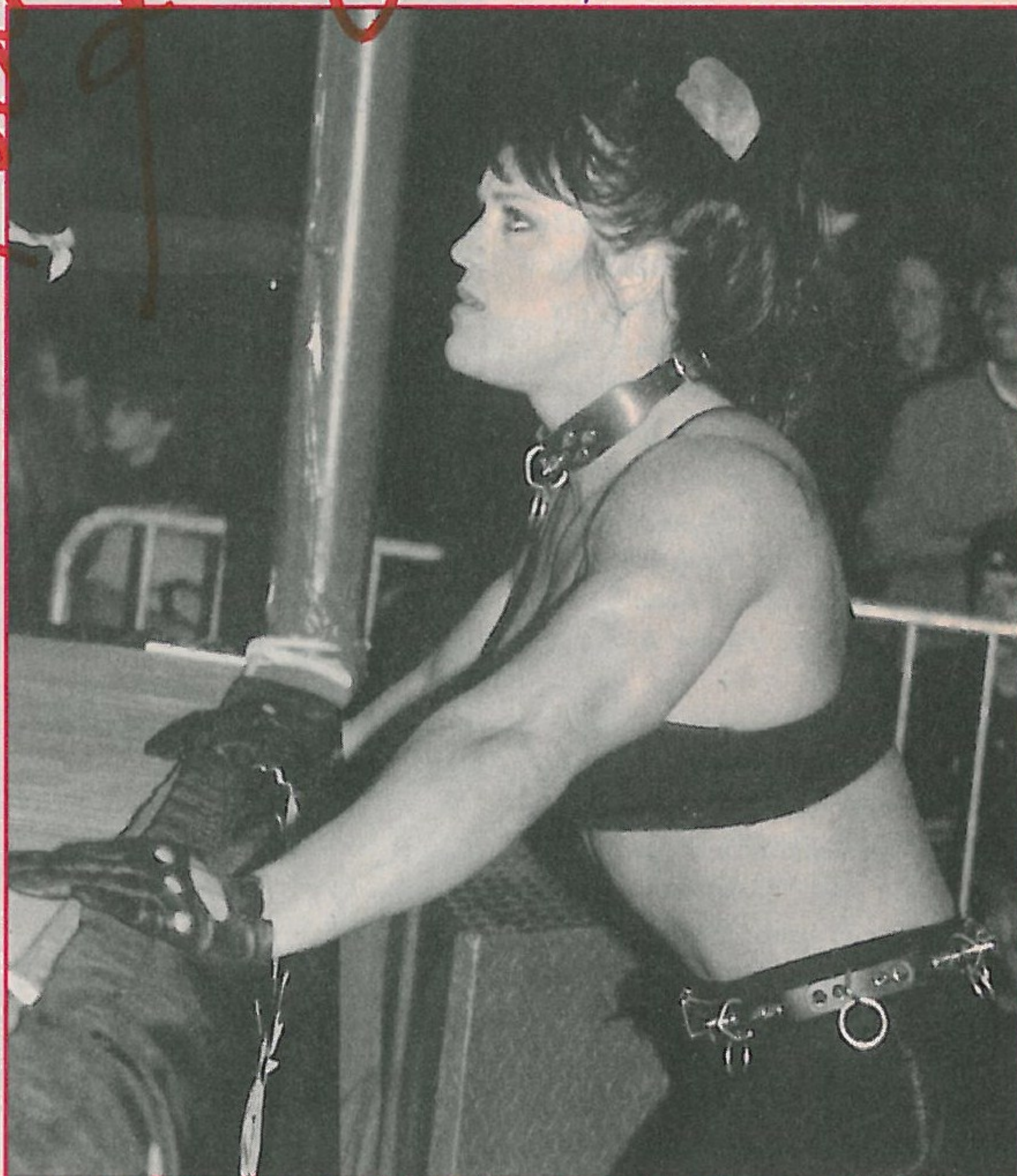
Now that you have your assignments—get cracking! I can't emphasize enough that the sooner you mail in your contributions to our gala year-end issue, the better the chances that your contribution will be used!

Label the envelope "Predictions '99," "Top 10 Lists," or "Unofficial Official Awards," and address it to: PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED, Box 1148, Fort Washington, PA 19034.

You can also send your submissions via e-mail to: redpenbm@aol.com

And be sure to keep an eye out for the March 1999 year-end edition of *PWI*; it goes on sale December 29, 1998.

LADY VICTORIA



We got a great top 10 list concerning Chyna last year. Maybe you can come up with one that is just as good. Or maybe you have a prediction about her. Unofficial Officials, predictions, top 10 lists—send 'em all in ASAP!